

It Just So Happened...

July 18, 2021
Ruth 2:1-23

Pastor Mark Turner
Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Reminders

- Naomi & Elimelech left Israel for Moab -> rough road...
- Naomi & Ruth return to God's promised land

Ruth's Request & God's Providence 2-4

- Ruth not acting like an outsider - uses God's laws^{Lev23:22}
- Ruth is hopeful^{2 'in whose sight I shall find favor'}
- Coincidence??: 3 happened to come; 4 just then Boaz
- God's Gracious hand in providence on those who obey

Lord's Favor through "Mr. Right"

Boaz is the ideal man - "Mr. Right" was:

- a relative - responsibility to care for family
- a man of standing - a man of resources & character
- a godly man - consider his conversation v4
- obedient to God's law - cared for the poor^{Dt24:19}
- welcoming - even to Ruth the Moabitess, a foreigner^{8,14}
- sensitive - treated women with care⁸⁻⁹
- protected the weak - commanded protection for Ruth⁹⁻¹⁰
- generous - invited Ruth to eat with him¹⁴⁻¹⁶

Boaz prefigures Christ - our Redeemer!

- left heaven - became our relative^{Heb2:17;1Jn4:2;Phil2:7}
- became the God-man - therefore He could redeem us^{Heb2:17}
- was the best humanity - Jesus without sin^{Heb4:15}
- obedient to God's law - Jesus kept Father's commands^{Jn15:10}
- was welcoming - Jesus treated foreigners, widows, kindly
- invites us to the table - He invites fellowship like Boaz^{Ruth2:12}
- sensitive - knows our needs^{Lk21:2;7:50;7:13;5:27;Jn19:26}

God's Lavish Kindness brings Us Hope 17-23

- Naomi sees & feels God's kindness through Ruth/Boaz
- Naomi saw Boaz as God's protector - able to help^{Lev25:5-7;47-55}
- What a difference a day can make!

Lessons:

- God uses active faith in His People as they obey His Word
You aren't saved by your works^{Is64:6}, but you are saved to do good works^{Phil3:9} so God gets the glory^{Eph2:8-10}
- People of Faith speak of God's glory & grace (Gospel)
People of faith speak of God's Gospel naturally in conversation
- No Division between Sacred & Secular
God uses ordinary people as they go about their lives, how is He using YOU as He works in our Church?

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