

## NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

### LESSON THIRTY-SEVEN: RUTH 2:13

**"Then she said, Let me find favor in thy sight, my lord; for that thou hast comforted me, and for that thou hast spoken friendly unto thine handmaid, through I be not like unto one of thine handmaidens."**

Ruth responded with humility to Boaz's remarks that she should be rewarded for her treatment of Naomi, and her courage in moving to Israel. She hoped that he would look upon her favorably. The same Hebrew word translated "favor" in v. 13 was translated "grace" in v. 10. It indicates "kindness to an inferior." In spite of the praise, Ruth continued to view Boaz as her superior.

Nevertheless, his kind words "comforted" or consoled her. He spoke "friendly," which literally means "to the heart." His words calmed her soul. She let out a sigh of relief. Her fears of being ill-treated because of her race were unfounded. This rich, important pillar of the community approved of her. He was willing to help her. Ruth's stress level must have dropped a few notches.

How many times have we worried about something that never happened? How much energy did we expend on that? It's human nature. We all do it.

But that is just the problem. It is human nature. If you have accepted Jesus as your Savior you also have a spiritual nature. Your two natures are constantly at war within you. To which do you yield?

Life has thrown us a curveball. Something unexpected and unwanted has interrupted our lives, and they will never be the same again. It's natural to be anxious about what the future holds. It's human nature to worry about how to go on from here. How to cope.

But, like Ruth who is a handmaid unlike the other handmaidens, we are unlike other people. The Bible calls us "peculiar" people (Titus 2:14). That is, we're different. What is that difference? Our spirits have been quickened - made alive. We have a spiritual nature, which is able to communicate directly with the Supreme Spiritual Being.

As Ruth was comforted by the kindly words of Boaz, we can find comfort in the words of God. Jesus said, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." (Heb. 13:5). No matter what situation arises, the Almighty Creator God is right there with you. There is no problem He can't handle. You can, therefore, experience the peace that Jesus promised to give us (John 14:27). Rest in Him.

*"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Colossians 3:15-16*