NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

LESSON FORTY-TWO COMMENTS

Dear Loved Ones,

Are kindness, widows, and laws important to you? Although there are many things that are important to God, today's lesson reminds us of three things that are very important to God:

- 1. **Kindness** Psalm 145:17, The Lord is righteous in everything he does; he is filled with <u>kindness</u>." Galations 5:22, "But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, <u>kindness</u>, goodness, faithfulness.
- 2. **Widows**-Psalm 68:5, "Father to the fatherless, defender of <u>widows</u>, this is God whose dwelling is holy." James 1:27, "Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and <u>widows</u> in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you."
- 3. **Laws/principles** Deuteronomy 6:17. You must diligently <u>obey</u> the commands of the Lord your God—all the <u>laws and decrees</u> he has given you." Galations 6:2, "Share each other's burdens, and in this way <u>obey</u> the <u>law</u> of Christ."

Of course, there are many verses in scripture that talk about these three subjects, so you may have noticed that I documented two from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. God doesn't change. Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever."

I find it interesting that one small verse can draw attention to three principles that God cares about. Do we value these principles as much as God does? It may be good to take a moment to think about making them more of a priority. Besides caring about widows and obeying God's basic laws, kindness can help us show God's love to those we love as well as those who God put in our path. The kindness that Naomi and Ruth showed to each other as family as well as to others seemed to make a huge difference in how they were received. It seemed to help to open doors for God's will. Today, Christians have the extra help from the Holy Spirit to show kindness. God may want to use kindness to open doors for us also. Who have you shown kindness to today? We shouldn't do it in order to gain kindness or a reward, but kindness often is reciprocated with kindness. It is worth the effort for the sake of others and maybe even for our sake as well. We all appreciate when someone is kind to us. Why not make someone else's day a little brighter by your kindness?

God has shown us abundant kindness by redeeming us through His Son as well as daily kindness in so many ways. He loves us. We can show our love to others through our kindness. Our loved ones need it, and it may open a door to show Christ's love to others.

Have a blessed week filled with kindness.

Love and prayers, Sandy Yates