

NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

LESSON TWENTY COMMENTS

Dear Loved ones,

I hope you have already read this week's lesson. I never want to have my comments distract you from the lesson that Sandy Harber has spent so much time researching and writing. She is doing a wonderful job and her teaching this week is especially important. It may be the basic foundation for the whole book of Ruth. Naomi and Ruth went to Bethlehem. It may not seem like a big deal, but it was to God. They entered God's place. This is where God now could begin a major work to carry out His plan through their lives. God had a purpose beyond their sins, beyond their hurts, beyond their own lives. **God was about to join the Jewish people and Gentiles to a redeemer.** Future verses will reveal their redeemer which we will discuss in upcoming lessons. We now know, however, that this is a symbol of our Redeemer, Jesus.

Sandy has shared many details that go beyond this verse to explain the significance of what God has put in place for not only the Jewish people but now for anyone (including Gentiles) who will look to Jesus as their redeemer. Jesus is a Jew but now h3 also has a heritage of Jew and Gentile.

God always has a plan. He was patient with the Jews, but He had a greater plan. Our world today is turning away from God like Israel (His children) did. God may be getting ready to show His judgement on the earth. We need to draw close to Him if we want His protection. We have seen the fulfillment of many prophecies, but He continues to prophesy of many things to come before He returns. Some of it may be very difficult and our faith may be severely tested. Our world is turning away from God. The Bible gives us many examples of times that God's patience ended with severe punishment. We need to pay attention to the possibility of very hard times. He wants us to seek Him and return our devotion to Him like we never have before. Prayer for our nation is becoming extremely important. However, He loves His children and wants us to abide under the cover of His wings. It is up to us to return to His protection within His dwelling place.

We can only do this by sincerely seeking Him, worshiping Him with our whole heart, and trusting Him to guide us through each day. He especially inhabits our praises. Ephesians 1:6, "So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son." We now have been given the opportunity to share in this glorious grace. Because of the return of Naomi and Ruth to God's place, God fulfilled His plan to provide hope for us. Jesus came through this line and gave us the opportunity to become redeemed and adopted as His children.

May each day draw you closer to the only one who can turn despair into hope and an eternal future. He wants to give us good gifts daily as we walk with Him. Praise Him for His abiding love and Fatherly care for every detail of our lives.

Have a blessed week.

Love and prayers,

Sandy Yates