

NAOMI - RUTH CONNECTION

LESSON FORTY-FOUR COMMENTS

Dear Loved Ones,

This lesson begins the 3rd chapter of Ruth so we are halfway. It has been amazing to see how much we have been able to learn so far from this short book. Sandy Harber has done an amazing job of breaking down each verse and giving us so many details about this story already.

This chapter begins to give us insight into the relationship between Boaz and Ruth. This verse tells us that it is being initiated by Naomi. Since Naomi considers Ruth to be a daughter, she feels the responsibility of helping her find security. The verse, according to the King James Version, says Naomi asks if she should help Ruth find rest.

When my husband entered Bible College, they were told to use the American Standard Version because it was the closest to the original interpretation. However, many scholars believe that the King James version is the closest to the original interpretation and don't like to consider other versions. I still sometimes like to compare them for the purpose of getting a better understanding. So for me, this interpretation seems more clear in that it states, "My daughter, shall I not seek security for you, that it may be well with you." It also notes that it is an interpretation for rest. Sandy Harber clearly got the meaning correct according to what she shared with us, but if we just read the verse without that understanding, it may seem confusing because we normally don't automatically think of rest as meaning security today although it certainly plays a big part of bringing us rest.

Even though being a widow today can be very challenging and heartbreaking, being a widow in Ruth's day was much harder. Being a widow without children also meant there was no way to pass on heritage and claim land that was supposed to stay within the family. This created enormous stress, so rest took on extra meaning. We see a great plan for the world unfold through this story that has so far seemed to concentrate largely on grieving and hardships. Stay tuned for the best part of the story.

God always has a plan. It is our job to seek His guidance. Ruth was guided by Naomi, but God used Naomi to help her seek those open doors. God often uses others to guide us too, but God wants us to seek Him so He can show us His plan. Sometimes it could come through others or our even our circumstances, but it should always agree with scripture. The verse that Sandy shares shows us that when God is in charge, it will be His perfect plan, just like it was for Ruth.

May your path become clearer and brighter as you seek His will daily. Sometimes we don't see what God is doing until we look back and get a glimpse of what God was up to, but like for Ruth, the outcome may reveal a much bigger plan than we ever imagined.

God bless you and your daily journey.

Love and prayers,

Sandy Yates