



God's Hidden Providence

1012Ru2.1-7(5)

Ruth 2:1-7



1 Now Naomi had a kinsman of her husband, a man of great wealth, of the family of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz. **2** And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, "Please let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after one in whose sight I may find favor." And she said to her, "Go, my daughter." **3** So she departed and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers; and she happened to come to the portion of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the family of Elimelech. **4** Now behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem and said to the reapers, "May the Lord be with you."

And they said to him, "May the Lord bless you." **5** Then Boaz said to his servant who was in charge of the reapers, "Whose young woman is this?" **6** And the servant in charge of the reapers answered and said, "She is the young Moabite woman who returned with Naomi from the land of Moab." **7** "And she said, 'Please let me glean and gather after the reapers among the sheaves.' Thus she came and has remained from the morning until now; she has been sitting in the house for a little while." – Ruth 2:1-7, NASB

The Passage is Also Found on Page 199 of the Old Testament Section of the Pew Bibles

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| <p>I. Act One: The Royal Line with Hope in Ruin (1:1-22)
II. Act Two: The Royal Line with Hope Renewed (2:1-23)
III. Act Three: The Royal Line with Hope at Risk (3:1-18)
IV. Act Four: The Royal Line with Hope Restored (4:1-17)</p> |
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II. Act Two: The Royal Line with Hope Renewed (2:1-23)

A. Scene One: Ruth Reaping (vv. 1-7)

1. In verse 1 a new character is introduced with 4 important details about him

- First, he is a _____ of Naomi's husband
- Second, he is described as a man of _____

(1) The Hebrew phrase *gibbôr hayil* can be understood several different ways depending on context (cf. Judges 6:12)

- Third, he is from the _____ or "clan" of Elimelech
- Fourth, his name is _____

2. Ruth Takes Charge (v. 2) – ("gleaning" - cf. Deuteronomy 24:19)

- a. Ruth is proactive, not reactive
- b. Ruth asks permission

3. God's Hidden Hand of Providence (v. 3)

- a. The second half of v. 3 is central to all of chapter 2

This is not an inconsistency, but rather an affirmation that Ruth's coming into the portion of the field owned by Boaz was not a humanly contrived event. It was ordained by God.

4. Boaz enters the scene (vv. 4-7)

- a. Boaz comes from Bethlehem and greets the workers (v. 4)
- b. Boaz sees Ruth and asks about her (v. 5)
- c. The foreman replies to Boaz' question (v. 6)
- d. The foreman relays her request (v. 7)

(1) The most difficult verse to understand in the book . . .

Bringing it back to God's Hidden Hand and our Joy . . .