

Ruth 2:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And her mother in law said unto her, Where hast thou gleaned to day? and where wroughtest thou? blessed be he that did take knowledge of thee. And she shewed her mother in law with whom she had wrought, and said, The man's name with whom I wrought to day is Boaz.

Analysis

Naomi responds with questions: '**Where hast thou gleaned to day? and where wroughtest thou? blessed be he that did take knowledge of thee**'. The large amount of grain prompts Naomi's inquiry—this exceeds normal gleaning. Her blessing on the unknown benefactor who 'took knowledge of' Ruth shows Naomi recognizing human kindness as God's providence. Ruth then reveals: '**The man's name with whom I wrought to day is Boaz**'. This revelation sets the stage for Naomi's recognition of God's redemptive plan unfolding.

Historical Context

Naomi's blessing on Ruth's benefactor before knowing his identity demonstrates faith that God works through human agents. Her immediate recognition of Boaz's significance (revealed in v. 20) shows she understood kinsman-redeemer laws and saw God's providence positioning Ruth with a potential redeemer. The narrative structure creates dramatic irony—readers know Boaz's identity and significance before Naomi, heightening anticipation of her response.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does Naomi's blessing demonstrate faith that sees God's hand in apparently random human kindness?
2. What does this teach about recognizing providence working through ordinary circumstances?

Interlinear Text

and said	H559	לִפְמֹתָה הָ	H0	לְהַ	וְתַ	אָמָר	אִפְּ	הַ	לִפְמֹתָה הָ	and where	H375	
unto her	H3950	Where	hast thou	gleaned	H2545	to	day	H575	with whom	I wrought	H1961	
be he that did take knowledge	H5234	מִכִּין רַ	תָּבִרְךָ וְ	וְתַ	H1288	מִכִּין דַ	עֲשֵׂה יְתִי	H6213	עַמְּדֵה	בָּנָה	H5046	
And her mother in law	H2545	לִפְמֹתָה הָ	A	תִּ	H853	אֲשֶׁר	אֲשֶׁר	H834	עֲשֵׂה יְתִי	וְתַ	H5973	
name	H8034	שֵׁם	הָאִישׁ	רַ	H376	with whom	I wrought	H6213	עַמְּדֵה	בָּנָה	and said	H559

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 41:1 (Blessing): Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

Ruth 2:10 (Parallel theme): Then she fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldest take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?

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