

Ruth 3:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said she, Sit still, my daughter, until thou know how the matter will fall: for the man will not be in rest, until he have finished the thing this day.

Analysis

Counsel to wait: **'Then said she, Sit still, my daughter, until thou know how the matter will fall: for the man will not be in rest, until he have finished the thing this day'**. Naomi counsels patient waiting while Boaz acts. Her confidence that he 'will not be in rest, until he have finished' shows she understood Boaz's character—his commitment meant immediate action to resolve the legal matters. Her counsel to 'sit still' meant don't interfere or worry, but trust the process. This demonstrates faith principle: after stepping out in obedience, often believers must wait while God works through human processes to accomplish His purposes.

Historical Context

Ancient legal processes required public witnesses and proper procedures before city elders. Naomi knew Boaz would go immediately to the city gate (where legal business occurred) to settle redemption rights. Her confidence in his character—that he wouldn't rest until completing the matter—showed she recognized his integrity and determination. Her counsel to Ruth to wait patiently demonstrated wisdom about balancing bold faith action with patient trust in God's timing once proper steps are taken. The phrase 'this day' showed urgency—Boaz would resolve matters immediately, not delay.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does Naomi's counsel to 'sit still' teach the balance between faith-based action and patient waiting?
2. What does Boaz's determination to finish quickly teach about resolving important matters with urgency rather than procrastination?

Interlinear Text

וַתֹּאמֶר שֵׁבִי בְּתִי אֲשֶׁר עַד תֵּדַע יְיָ

Then said

H559

she Sit still

H3427

my daughter

H1323

H5704

H834

until thou know

H3045

H349

יִפֹּל הַדָּבָר כִּי לֹא יִשְׁקֹט הָאִישׁ כִּי אֲדָמָה

will fall

H5307

how the matter

H1697

H3588

H3808

will not be in rest

H8252

for the man

H376

H3588

until

H518

כָּל־הָ הַדָּבָר הַיּוֹם:

he have finished

H3615

how the matter

H1697

this day

H3117