

# Ruth 3:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And now is not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast? Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the threshingfloor.

## Analysis

Naomi identifies the kinsman: '**And now is not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast?**' She confirms Boaz's kinsman status, making him potential go'el (redeemer). The phrase '**Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the threshingfloor**' provides timing and location. Winnowing occurred after harvest, using evening breezes to separate grain from chaff. Naomi's knowledge of Boaz's schedule shows careful observation and planning—she times Ruth's approach for appropriate moment when Boaz would be present but circumstances allowed private conversation about redemption.

## Historical Context

Threshing floors were outdoor areas where harvested grain was separated from chaff. The process involved beating grain to release kernels, then tossing it into the air so wind carried away lighter chaff while heavier grain fell to the floor. This required evening breezes, making nights optimal for winnowing. Landowners often slept at threshing floors during harvest to prevent theft. Naomi's plan involved Ruth approaching Boaz in this semi-public setting where conversation was possible but propriety maintained through Boaz's servants nearby.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Naomi's careful planning illustrate wisdom in pursuing God's purposes through appropriate means?
2. What does this teach about timing and method in approaching important life decisions?

## Interlinear Text

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אַתָּה קְיֻיָת אֲשֶׁר מִדְעָתָנוּ בְּעֵזֶל אֲוֹתָה

H6258

H3808

And now is not Boaz

H1162

מִדְעָתָנוּ רְאֵשׁ בְּעֵזֶל

H834

H1961

H854

אַתָּה תְּזַעֲרֹתָה יְהִי הַזְּהָבָה וְאַתָּה תְּזַעֲרֹתָה יְהִי

with whose maidens

H5291

H2009

H1931

thou wast Behold he winnoweth

H2219

אַתָּה

H853

בְּלִילָה: יְמִינָה שְׂעִיר בְּרִיאָה

in the threshingfloor

H1637

barley

H8184

to night

H3915

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ruth 2:8** (Parallel theme): Then said Boaz unto Ruth, Hearest thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, but abide here fast by my maidens:

**Ruth 2:1** (Parallel theme): And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz.

