

“God’s Rich Rewards to Those Who Seek Him”

Ruth 4:1-22 8/4/19

Sermon Series- God’s Providential Faithfulness and His Invitation to Us

“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”

Romans 15:4 (see also 1 Cor 10:11)

HESED- “A Hebrew word that no one English word can begin to convey accurately. Being expressive of relationships, the term connotes altogether the notions of **covenantal loyalty, faithfulness, kindness, goodness, mercy, love, and compassion.**” K. Lawson Younger, Jr.

Background Texts- Hebrew word **GOEL**. A *goel* is usually translated as “kinsman-redeemer”. A *goel* had several responsibilities according to OT.

- 1) Buying back (redeeming) family property (Lev 25:25-30)
- 2) Buying back (redeeming) family members who became indentured servants (Lev 25:47-55).
- 3) Being the avenger of blood on murderers of family (Num 35:12, 19-27)
- 4) Receiving restitution on behalf of deceased family (Numbers 5:8)
- 5) Advocating for family in lawsuit (Job 19:25; Ps 119:154; Jer 50:34)

Lesson 1- The fruit of faith and doing Hesed is seen in BOAZ

- 1) From single to family; 2) Giver of Hesed to receiver of Hesed

Lesson 2- The fruit of faith and doing Hesed is seen in RUTH

- 1) From widow to family; 2) Foreigner to Member; 3) Outcast immigrant to founding mother of Davidic Dynasty! 4) Giver of Hesed to receiver of Hesed

Lesson 3- The fruit of faith and doing Hesed is seen in NOAMI

- 1) From bitter widow to Joyful Grandmother; 2) Empty to FULL.

Lesson 4- The rewards and example of doing Hesed is seen in YAHWEH

- 1) From accusations of meanness to shouts of praise; 2) Creates opportunities for ordinary people to show Hesed to others and multiply it to potentially earth changing results! 3) Often makes us wait; 4) Always seeking to turn our tragedies into triumph (Rom 8:28); 5) Ultimate GOEL in sending Jesus (Ruth’s great, great, great grandson) to RESCUE us!

And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who diligently (seriously) seek him. (Hebrews 11:6)

From Ruth’s decision to seek God (chapter 1) and God’s faithful blessing of a child (chapter 4) was at least one year!

Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples