

Finding Favor

1. Listen to Boaz & Ruth's Conversation.

- A. Boaz Encourages Ruth to Stay (8-9).
- B. Ruth Asks Clarifying Questions (10).
- C. Boaz Praises and Blesses Ruth (11-12).
- D. Ruth Acknowledges His Kindness (13).

2. Boaz Is Revealed as a Means of God's Provision.

3. Ruth Demonstrates Wisdom.

4. God Continues to Care For His People.

Conclusion: God has providentially brought Ruth and Boaz together and enabled Boaz to act honorably towards her. Now Boaz and Ruth talk with one another directly for the first time and Boaz makes his favor towards her explicit and encourages her to stay in his field. Ruth clarifies his intent and thanks him graciously. This conversation raises the question if there is anything more here than hospitality and anticipates what God might do. Are we trusting God with this kind of hopeful anticipation?

Isaiah 55:10-11

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”

Second Corinthians 5:1-5

For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, *we have a building from God*, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ² For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³ if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ *He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.*

Exodus 33:12-16

¹² Moses said to the Lord, “See, you say to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and *you have also found favor in my sight.*’ ¹³ Now therefore, if I have *found favor in your sight*, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to *find favor in your sight*. Consider too that *this nation is your people.*” ¹⁴ And he said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” ¹⁵ And he said to him, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. ¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have *found favor in your sight, I and your people?* Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?”

Luke 2:39-40

³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And *the favor of God was upon him.*

Hosea 14:9

Whoever is wise, let him understand these things;
whoever is discerning, let him know them;
for the ways of the Lord are right, and the upright walk in them,
but transgressors stumble in them.

Deuteronomy 30:9-10

The Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all the work of your hand, in the fruit of your womb and in the fruit of your cattle and in the fruit of your ground. For the Lord will again *take delight in prospering you*, as he took delight in your fathers, ¹⁰ when you obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep his commandments and his statutes that are written in this Book of the Law, *when you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.*