



THE BOOK OF RUTH

The Provision of God (Chapter 4)



GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST – Sermon by Ray Reynolds (8-28-16 AM)

INTRODUCTION: The book of Ruth is not just about providing a home for Naomi, finding a husband for Ruth, or seeing God's love for mankind. It is about preserving the lineage of the Messiah. This story shows us that when God accomplishes His will through us it will bless everybody around us. These women were in great company and attention is called to other great women like them: Leah, Rachel, Tamar, and Rahab. God used all of these women to preserve the Messianic seed (**Matthew 1**). These women would have a part in blessing the whole earth! Let's study together....

DISCUSSION:

I. THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ELDERS (vs.1-4a)

- A. Boaz Calls a Public Meeting
- B. Boaz Confronts a Problem
- C. Boaz Keeps His Promise

II. THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE KINSMAN REDEEMER (vs.4b-7)

- A. The First Relative Approves
- B. The First Relative Aborts
- C. Boaz Accepts Responsibility

III. THE ACCEPTANCE OF BOAZ (vs.8-12)

- A. The Reflection of Boaz
- B. The Redemption of Ruth
- C. The Response of the People

IV. THE ANCESTRY OF OBED (vs.13-22)

- A. Ruth Was Blessed
- B. Naomi Was Blessed
- C. Israel Was Blessed

CONCLUSION: The poem "If God Went On Strike" offers a graphic reminder of what would happen if God went on strike. We are more blessed than we could ever imagine. When we head down the wrong path, God has already prepared an exit strategy. He never gives up on us (**Hebrews 13:5**). He hopes that we will trust Him, submit to Him, and serve Him in a humble obedient way. **Proverbs 16:9** says, "*the heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.*" What would happen if you completely surrendered to the will of God? Do you believe He will provide? Are you serving Him with your whole heart?