

GOD'S HAND IN OUR SUFFERING

Redeeming Ruth, Part 1

Pastor Ken Ritz *June 26, 2011* New Life Vineyard Church

Ruth Chapter 1

The book of Ruth is set during the period of the Judges, which was a dark and rebellious time for the people of Israel.

Bethlehem = "House of bread"

Elimelek = "God is my King"

Naomi = Sweet, Pleasant"

Mahlon and Kilion = Sick and Dying

A theme of Ruth is the _____
of God.

God works in our lives through...

- the visible hand of _____
- the invisible hand of _____.

Providence = The foresight and care which God manifests for his people," (i.e. he is working together all things for our good.)

God is both Sovereign and _____.
When we disconnect these two, we become confused or misled about what God is like.

When we believe God is Sovereign but not Good, we picture him as a "Distant Dictator."

When we believe God is Good but not Sovereign, we fall into the error of the "Open Theist."

God works in Ruth, not through his visible hand of miracle, but through his invisible hand of providence.

Sanctified = (Saint)ified = to make more holy (like a saint).

"Sanctified Affliction" is suffering that is used by God to help us grow.

When we suffer, God wants us to ask the question:
"God, how is this being used by you to sanctify me?"

Naomi and Ruth respond to suffering by returning to _____ and _____ (church).

Key Scriptures

Naomi heard in Moab that the Lord had come to the aid of his people...
Ruth 1:6

Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me."
Ruth 1:16-17

Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning.
Ruth 1:22

**All scriptures from TNIV unless otherwise noted*