

Is There Such Great Faith in All of Israel
Ruth 2:1-13

- I. True Faith (1-2)
 - A. What does true faith look like?
 - 1. It is not spiritually veiled laziness
 - 2. Ruth could have just “prayed and waited”
 - B. Faith moves us to action
 - 1. Ruth believed it was best to go with Naomi
 - 2. Ruth knew she must act if they were to eat
 - C. The marks of genuine faith
 - 1. A belief that God will be true to his word
 - 2. A willingness to do that can be done from the human perspective to be used as a means to God’s ends (Hurricane story)
- II. God’s Kind Providence (3-9)
 - A. “She happened to come...”
 - 1. The Hebrew language uses this word for “chance” occurrences: Ruth did not intentionally set out to work in Boaz’s field
 - 2. God, in His kind providence, allowed it to be so
 - B. The character of Boaz
 - 1. A man of great wealth (also – a man of great valor) – verse 1
 - 2. Spiritually minded (4)
 - 3. Observant (5)

- 4. Compassionate (8-9)
 - C. The character of Ruth
 - 1. Courteous – she asked permission to work the field (7)
 - 2. Hard-working (7)
 - D. When God in his kind providence brings together people who actively live their faith by way of compassion and diligence, God’s glory and man’s good are readily made manifest
- III. The Last Shall Be First (10-13)
 - A. Notice Ruth’s attitude
 - 1. Why would you take notice of me?
 - 2. I am a foreigner
 - B. Notice Boaz’s response
 - 1. All you have done for Naomi
 - a. Not for yourself
 - b. Not for your own benefit
 - 2. You made a great sacrifice for another
 - C. Notice Boaz’s hope of blessing
 - 1. May God reward your work
 - 2. May God make your wages full
 - 3. You have sought salvation under the safety and care of the Lord