

"Grace at First Sight" Ruth 2

With every support and security stripped away from their lives, Naomi and Ruth search and find security in Ruth 2. The passage teaches that grace is undeserved kindness, comes from God sovereignly, must be received in humility and faith, and should be then given away wastefully!

I. Given by God Sovereignly

A. Ruth's Helpless Circumstances

"Now when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap to the very corners of your field, nor shall you gather ... the fallen fruit ... you shall leave them for the needy and for the stranger."

—Leviticus 19:9-10

B. God's Sovereign Circumstances

"In love He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished on us."

—Ephesians 1:5-8

II. Received in Humility & Faith

"God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

—James 4:6

"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast."

—Ephesians 2:8-9

"Many years ago I was driven to conclusion that the 2 major causes of most emotional problems among Christians are these: the failure to understand, receive, and live out God's unconditional love, forgiveness, and grace to other people ... We read, we hear, we believe a good theology of grace. But that's not the way we live. The good news of the Gospel of grace has not penetrated the level of emotions."

III. Given Away Brings Blessing

- In Boaz's Life (2:14-23)
- In NT (Lk 10:30-37, Matt 26:6-12)
- In Our Life

Where can we waste grace today?