

## IV. WHAT A MAN OF WORTH LOOKS LIKE: Ruth 2:1-23

**Q.** What does biblical manliness look like? What marks his life? Women, do you know what a man of worth looks like? Men, do you know what a godly man looks like?

- In this day when our world is filled not with men but with boys who can shave, it is of paramount importance that we look to God's Word to show us what a man of worth indeed looks like.

**BIG IDEA:** What a man of worth looks like.

### INTRO: Boaz was a man of worth (v.1)

**Ruth 2:1** "Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz."

### I. A man of worth has a heart filled with love for God that overflows in his speech (v. 2-4)

**Ruth 2:2-4** "2 And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, 'Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor.' And she said to her, 'Go, my daughter.' 3 So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech. 4 And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem. And he said to the reapers, 'The LORD be with you!' And they answered, 'The LORD bless you.'"

- **King David, Boaz's great-grandson, is one of the manliest men who ever lived.** He killed bears and lions with his bare hands! He killed Goliath the giant enemy of God. He destroyed the enemies of the LORD's people, making peace for Israel.
- **You know what else?** He meditated on God's word day and night; he memorized the scriptures; he taught the Bible; he wrote songs and sang them and taught others to sing them; he prayed his heart out; he pointed to the kind mercy of God in saving sinners by grace; and he wept over his sin and repented.
- **CHILDREN:** People who do not love Jesus will lie to you and tell you how to be a man. Real men — *men that are good and you should want to be like* — are men who love Jesus and are always talking about Jesus and singing about Jesus!

- **Q.** Men, do you want to be a man of worth?
- **Luke 6:45** "The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks."
- If you want to be a man of worth, first make sure you have faith in Christ's blood; make sure you are listening to Him as your a prophet, and make certain you are submitting to Him as your King. Then fill your mind and heart with God's word and when you open your mouth, worthiness will flow out!

## **II. A man of worth cares about the wellbeing of women (v. 5-7)**

**Ruth 2:5-7** "5 Then Boaz said to his young man who was in charge of the reapers, 'Whose young woman is this?' 6 And the servant who was in charge of the reapers answered, 'She is the young Moabite woman, who came back with Naomi from the country of Moab. 7 She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.' So she came, and she has continued from early morning until now, except for a short rest."

- **Q.** Men, do you care about the wellbeing of women?

## **III. A man of worth protects women (v. 8-9)**

**Ruth 2:8-9** "8 Then Boaz said to Ruth, 'Now, listen, my daughter, do not go to glean in another field or leave this one, but keep close to my young women. 9 Let your eyes be on the field that they are reaping, and go after them. Have I not charged the young men not to touch you? And when you are thirsty, go to the vessels and drink what the young men have drawn."

- **This is why Adam is held responsible for the Fall of man into sin— Eve, the weaker vessel, was to be protected by Adam!** (Gen. 3; 1 Pet. 3:7)
- **This is why men are to be the ones who go to war!** (Num. 1:2-3; Deut. 20)
- **This is why Paul commands the men in Corinth,** "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Cor. 16:13-14)
- **This is why Proverbs 31 says,** "my son... defend the rights of the poor and needy." (Pro. 31:1,9)
- **This is also why the Lord Jesus Christ looked down at his best friend John and told him that Mary was now to be his mother and he her son!** (John 19:26)
- **Consider what Paul says in 1 Timothy 5:2,** "[treat] older women as

mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity."

- **CHILDREN:** Worthy men protect women. They also protect children.
- **Worthy men protect women for God's glory;** worthless men use women for their own appetite.
- **Q.** Which are you, men—worthless or worthy when it comes to protecting or using women?

#### **IV. A man of worth is attracted to holiness and faith (v. 10-12)**

**Ruth 2:10-12** "10 Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground, and said to him, 'Why have I found favor in your eyes, that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?' 11 But Boaz answered her, 'All that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband has been fully told to me, and how you left your father and mother and your native land and came to a people that you did not know before. 12 The LORD repay you for what you have done, and a full reward be given you by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge!'"

- **1 Peter 3:3-4** "3 Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear— 4 but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious."
- **Q.** Men: what are you attracted to?
- **Q.** Women: what do you adorn yourselves with?

#### **V. A man of worth shows grace, gives comfort, and speaks kindly even above and beyond his duty (v. 13)**

**Ruth 2:13** "Then she said, 'I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and spoken kindly to your servant, though I am not one of your servants.'"

- **Ephesians 4:29** "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear."
- **Q.** Men, what comes out of your mouth?

#### **VI. A man of worth is a hardworking provider (v. 14-18)**

**Ruth 2:14-18** "14 And at mealtime Boaz said to her, 'Come here and eat some bread and dip your morsel in the wine.' So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed to her roasted grain. And she ate until she was satisfied, and she had some left over. 15 When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, saying, 'Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not

reproach her. **16** And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her.'

**17** So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley. **18** And she took it up and went into the city. Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied."

- **RELATIVES: 1 Timothy 5:8** "But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."
- **ANYONE IN NEED: Ephesians 4:28** "Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need."
- **CHILDREN: Men of worth are men that work hard so that they can provide.**
- **Q.** Men, are you a hardworking provider?

## **VII. A man of worth is a redeemer (v. 19-20)**

**Ruth 2:19-20** "**19** And her mother-in-law said to her, 'Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!' So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, 'The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz.' **20** And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, 'May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!' Naomi also said to her, 'The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers.'"

- **Q.** Men, what can you redeem?

## **VIII. A man of worth perseveres in good works (v. 21-23)**

**Ruth 2:21-23** "**21** And Ruth the Moabite said, 'Besides, he said to me, 'You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.' **22** And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, 'It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, lest in another field you be assaulted.' **23** So she kept close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests. And she lived with her mother-in-law."

- **Q.** Men, do you persevere? Are you consistent?

## ***This is what a man of worth looks like.***

- **Women, have you had men like this in your life?** I think most of you have had very few, maybe none. Shame on we men if so.
- **Women, have you been physically abused by a worthless man?** or

Have you been verbally abused? Have you been left without provision? Have you been left starving spiritually by a worthless man because He was not full of love for Jesus?

- I cannot change your past concerning abuse or neglect from a worthless man, but I can introduce you to a man who can heal all your pains. I know a man.

### **I) I know a man whose heart is full past the brim with love for God; whose lips overflow with blessings! He has promised to wash His church with the water of His word and make you holy.**

- "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish." **(Ephesians 5:25-27)**

### **II) I know a man who cares about the wellbeing of women!**

- "[While Jesus was on the cross] There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When [Jesus] was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem." **(Mark 15:40-41)**

### **III) I know a man who will never abuse you—whats more He will protect you!**

- "the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one." **(2 Thessalonians 3:3)**
- **And what about the Lord Jesus' promise in Luke 21:17-18?** "You will be hated by all for my name's sake. But not a hair of your head will perish."

### **IV) I know a man who is attracted to faith and holiness!**

- "For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." **(1 Samuel 16:7)**
- **In Psalm 33:5 the Psalmist sings,** "[The LORD] loves righteousness."
- **Psalm 146:8 says,** "the LORD loves the righteous."
- **THOMAS WATSON:** "Holiness is God's image; and God cannot choose but love his image where he sees it. A king loves to see his effigies upon coins."

**BY THE WAY, I KNOW A MAN WHO IS ALSO ATTRACTED TO SINNERS THAT NEED SAVING!**

- **Jesus says**, "The healthy have no need of a Physician, but the sick [do]. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." **And again He said**, "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."
- **CHILDREN**: Did you know Jesus came to the earth so He could forgive you of your sin if you trust in Him? He will receive you if you put your faith in Him!

**V) I know a man who speaks grace, comfort, and kindness!**

- "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned." (**Isaiah 40:1-2**)

**VI) I know a man who is a hardworking provider!**

- "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich." (**2 Cor. 8:9**)

**VII) I know a man who is a Redeemer!**

- "our great God and Savior Jesus Christ...gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works." (**Titus 2:13-14**)

**VIII) I know a man who will persevere in doing good to you; who will never leave you nor forsake you!**

- "In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also" (**John 14:2-3**)
- **Again the Lord Jesus says in John 14:8** "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

***I know a man. Oh I know a worthy man! He is THE worthy man! He is not only the Savior of women but also of men and boys and girls. He can be yours and you can be His today. He is alive today and ready to be YOUR Redeemer!***

These promises belong to you if you belong to Jesus. Do you? Do not delay.

Go to him in faith today. Turn from trusting in your sin or your righteousness. Forsake your sin and trust in and submit to Jesus Christ today, even right now, and you have this worthy man, even the God-man, as your Savior-King.

**I.D.E. Thomas:** *These men [the Puritans] brought to their work a manliness and a thoroughness that one meets all too rarely in current evangelical theology. They were men of the stamp of Samuel Rutherford, who in order to spend his time in prayer and study, would commonly rise about three in the morning. Or John Preston, who was so indulgent in study that he begrudged the very hours he had to sleep! To counteract this, 'he would let the bed clothes [read: blankets] hang down, that in the night they might fall off, and so the cold awaken him" (A Puritan Golden Treasury, p. 8).*