

Trust is the foundation of submission

Leadership (Influence)

(Luke 14:12) Then said he also to him that bade him, When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor *thy* rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee.

(Luke 14:13) But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind:

(Luke 14:14) And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: **for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.**

Submission CAN NOT be based on a selfish motive, where we carry an expectation that our efforts afford us privilege in the kingdom of God. Such an attitude will express sometimes overboard submission and exaggeration on how much they obey the prophets, when in the truth they are secure in a wrong motive. Often this deception is based on their human relationship with spiritual leadership, financial success in life, and/or their accomplishments and measured time of service in the work of God. Such submission will cause competition, jealousy, bitterness, and every evil work, with the false face of humility on the surface.

Luke 11:46 And he said, Woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers.

47. Woe unto you! for ye build the sepulchres of the prophets, and your fathers killed them.

48. Truly ye bear witness that ye allow the deeds of your fathers: for they indeed killed them, and ye build their sepulchres.

49 Therefore also said the wisdom of God, I will send them prophets and apostles, and *some* of them they shall slay and persecute:

Luk 11:50 That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation;

Luk 11:51 From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation.

Jas 3:13 Who *is* a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

Jas 3:14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

Jas 3:15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, devilish.

Jas 3:16 For where envying and strife *is*, there *is* confusion and every evil work.

Jas 3:17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, *and* easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Jas 3:18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.

We can't kill new converts, they are the life blood of the kingdom of God! So let us examine the influence of Boaz and the and the right attitude of Ruth that she carried as the new convert, the attitude of respect and trust to God Himself which was the base of her submission. We can take things from both sides to find the proper way to be a leader and a servant to God's people with the proper view of submission to God.

(Rth 2:10) Then she fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground, and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldst take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?

(Rth 2:11) And Boaz answered and said unto her, It hath fully been shewed me, all that thou hast done unto thy mother in law since the death of thine husband: and *how* thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore.

Notice the beautiful old-time salutations between the employer and his employees. The omission of these courteous greetings is one of the mistakes of our modern civilization. We live in a time when the relations between master and servant, between mistress and maid, are strangely altered, being largely financial and selfish. Each tries to get as much as possible out of the other, and thus the personal touch is absent. Is it to be wondered at that the human machine runs hard and sometimes breaks down? But Boaz was clearly a good man. He had won the respect of the whole neighborhood, and his tender words to the young stranger, saluting her as a nestling under the wings of Jehovah, indicated that he dwelled "in the secret place of the Most High."

Where did Boaz get this information? Obviously, this was the talk of the servants in his field. Now to get the setting proper, let us examine the influence Boaz had on this soul:

Rth 2:1 And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, **a mighty man of wealth**, of the family of Elimelech; and his name *was* Boaz.

Boaz: It actually means "strength is within him", (bo = in him, az= strength)

- the name of a pillar in front of the temple

This is the strength of God's people, a servant to the servants. Leadership is not a position or title. Leadership is INFLUENCE. Using the principles that we read from the Lord's parables, we see this in action in Boaz. He was a servant to the servants in his field. He Believed in the Moabite, not due to her physical appearance, not due to her social status, or financial capability. He believed in her because of the display of her character and trust in the Almighty God.

Influence is not just the ability to lead others to submission, but the ability to be touched by their infirmities. The ability to believe in someone and strengthen the congregation, the pillar of the House of God.

Ruth – being loved by the Kinsman Redeemer - Boaz

She could have turned back like the other example. The death of her husband could have caused her to become bitter. She left her father and mother of her birth, and came to Israel, a people she did not know. The foundation of these actions:

(Rth 2:12) The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel, **under whose wings thou art come to trust.**

(Rth 2:13) Then she said, Let me find favour in thy sight, my lord; for that thou hast comforted me, and for that thou hast spoken friendly unto thine handmaid, though I be not like unto one of thine handmaidens.

New Convert (Ruth) to Boaz "you treated me like a brother/sister in the LORD, not as a stranger". More specifically than a stranger, a "MOABITE" which was a race of people that GOD FORBID to enter the congregation of the LORD. (Because of Balaam)

Deu 23:3 An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the LORD for ever:

Deu 23:4 **Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way, when ye came forth out of Egypt; and because they hired against thee Balaam the son of Beor of Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse thee.**

1Th 4:6 That no *man* go beyond and defraud his brother in *any* matter: because **that the Lord *is* the avenger of all such**, as we also have forewarned you and testified.

1Th 4:7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.

1Th 4:8 He therefore that despiseth, **despiseth not man**, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.

Kinsman Redeemer

(2Co 1:4) Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

Paul speaking of the comfort of the Holy Ghost in our tribulation as the ministry to be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, by the same comfort we received from God.

Ruth 2:14 And Boaz said unto her, At mealtime come thou hither, and eat of the bread, and **dip thy morsel in the vinegar**. And she sat beside the reapers: and he reached her parched *corn*, and she did eat, and was sufficed, and left.

Notice the dipping of the SOP – (Judas) submitted for the position, but not in trusting God. Critical of the ministry, and just about every decision Jesus made to the point that he sold Jesus out to the Sanhedrin for crucifixion. The SOP was the last gesture of mercy extended to him from the Kinsman Redeemer and he received in with a unpure heart of betrayal... and satan entered into his heart.

Boaz (kinsmen redeemer) extends the sop to Ruth to represent her as the distinguished guest, in a gesture of acceptance and servanthood to her and acceptance of her into the kingdom of God.

i. We should use Ruth's example to glean everything we can from the Word of God:

- Ruth worked hard.
- Ruth had to stoop to gather every grain.
- Ruth could only pick up one grain at a time.
- Ruth had to hold on to each grain, and not immediately drop it.
- Ruth took the grain home and threshed it.

- Ruth took the threshed grain and winnowed it.
- Ruth was nourished by the grain.

Ruth 2:15 And when she was risen up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying, Let her glean even among the sheaves, and reproach her not: **16** And let fall also *some* of the handfuls of purpose for her, and leave *them*, that she may glean *them*, and rebuke her not.

Notice if Ruth had not put any effort on her part, she would have not received any of the blessing that Boaz was setting up for her. Had she gotten bitter and given up, and stopped working for God, or had the wrong attitude about how Boaz responded to her, or had the wrong attitude toward Naomi or her circumstance, she would have missed the favor and grace of God through the Kinsman Redeemer.

When trust in the Most High God is the foundation of submission, we have His comfort, under the protection of His Wings. This is a solid motive, will produce peace and love for others, allowing others to glean your field. As the example of Boaz, we will have influence and be able to believe in others. As the example of Ruth, we should keep a thankful heart, and attitude of trusting our master and working for the Kingdom of God.