

Faithfulness in the Field

1. We Are Privy to Three Encounters in the Workplace.

- A. Boaz Greets His Employees in the Lord (4).
- B. Boaz Inquires about Ruth from his Foreman (5).
- C. Boaz's Foreman Gives a Report (6-7).

2. Boaz and Ruth Demonstrate Faithfulness.

3. How Are We Demonstrating Faith in Christ Daily?

Conclusion: Last week's emphasis on God's faithfulness in providence is followed up with this peek into His people's faithfulness at work. Both Boaz and Ruth are revealed doing what they should in how they serve the God of the Bible in their daily responsibilities. As we see them modeling faithfulness, it leads us to investigate our own behavior and the intentions of our hearts. Are we serving Christ foremost in the way that we go about the things that He has entrusted to our care?

Luke 22:24-27

(see also Mt 20:17-28; Mk 9:33-35)

²⁴ A dispute also arose among [the disciples], as to *which of them was to be regarded as the greatest*. ²⁵ And he said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles *exercise lordship over them*, and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶ *But not so with you*. Rather, let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves. ²⁷ For who is the greater, one who reclines at table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at table? But *I am among you as the one who serves*.

Colossians 3:18-4:1

¹⁸ Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. ²⁰ Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. ²² Bondservants, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. ²³ *Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord* and not for men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. *You are serving the Lord Christ*. ²⁵ For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality. ⁴¹ Masters, treat your bondservants justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

Ephesians 6:5-9

⁵ Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, ⁶ not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but *as bondservants of Christ*, doing the will of God from the heart, ⁷ *rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man*, ⁸ knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. ⁹ Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

First Peter 5:1-7

So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: ² shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ *not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock*. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. ⁵ Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.