

The Book of Ruth: Destiny and the Providence of God

March 27th, 2022

Scripture: Ruth 2:1-7

Ruth 2:1-7

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

Outline

1. The providence of God in our passage
2. The providence of God in the Bible
3. The providence of God in our lives

The providence of God in our passage

Ruth 4:17-20

They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David. Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron, ¹⁹ Hezron fathered Ram, Ram fathered Amminadab, ²⁰ Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon, ²¹ Salmon fathered Boaz, Boaz fathered Obed, ²² Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

Proverbs 16:9

The heart of man plans his way,
but the Lord directs his steps.



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The providence of God in the Bible

He establishes the moon and stars (Ps. 8:3)

He appoints creatures for special purposes (Jon. 1:17; 4:6–8)

He sets geographical boundaries (1 Chron. 17:9; Acts 17:26)

He establishes governments (Rom. 13:1)

He fixes the time of judgment (Acts 17:31).

He determines to save people from their sins (John 6; Ephesians 1; Romans 9)

"If there is one maverick molecule in all the universe, then God is not sovereign. And if God is not sovereign, He is not God."

-R.C. Sproul

The providence of God in our lives

Romans 8:28-32

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

