

## God Works All Things after the Council of His Own Will

### Scripture

"And Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You [are] witnesses this day that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that [was] Chilion's and Mahlon's, from the hand of Naomi. "Moreover, Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, I have acquired as my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brethren and from his position at the gate. You [are] witnesses this day." And all the people who [were] at the gate, and the elders, said, "[We are] witnesses. The LORD make the woman who is coming to your house like Rachel and Leah, the two who built the house of Israel; and may you prosper in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem. "May your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring which the LORD will give you from this young woman." So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife; and when he went in to her, the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son. Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed [be] the LORD, who has not left you this day without a close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel! "And may he be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has borne him." Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her bosom, and became a nurse to him. Also the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, "There is a son born to Naomi." And they called his name Obed. He [is] the father of Jesse, the father of David. Now this [is] the genealogy of Perez: Perez begot Hezron; Hezron begot Ram, and Ram begot Amminadab; Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon; Salmon begot Boaz, and Boaz begot Obed; Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David." (Ruth 4:9-22 NKJV)

### Commentary

It is amazing to see how God takes some of the bleakest situations and uses, no directs them to His desired end. Ruth, a Moabitess is brought into the lineage of David, the lineage of Christ. How marvelous it is that the Gentiles are part of God's children.

Why do we wring our hands worrying about this choice and that direction? As long as we are not violating any of God's commandments, we should have tremendous freedom to enjoy God and life. He will work it all out for His good pleasure.

Of course when we look with an evil eye wanting to get rich, or with lust seeking to satisfy sinful desires, then we can be sure that our path will be fraught with much misery and pain. Oh, it will end up exactly where God desires it to end, but the trip will not be pleasant or without consequences.

Live by faith putting God first and everything else after, and have no fear of judgment. "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love." (1 John 4:18 NKJV)

Are you perfect in love? Do you obey the Lord's commandments? If you are obeying, then there is nothing to fear. God is with you!

Make it your purpose today to live for Christ, and trust in His providence. If He can do what He did for Ruth, and He did, then He can take care of you, also.

### Prayer

Lord God Almighty, ". . . The LORD [is] my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You [are] with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever." (Psalms 23:1-6 NKJV)