

THE BOOK OF RUTH CHAPTER TWO (MCEC)

"One day Ruth said to Naomi, let me go out into the field to gather leftover grain behind anyone who will let me do it." ... and Naomi said, "all right my daughter, go ahead." So Ruth went out to gather grain behind the harvesters. And as it happened, she found herself WORKING in a field that belonged to Boaz, the relative of her father-in-law Elimelech." (Ruth.2:2ff).

What do you think of this statement from Ruth's mouth, "Let me go out into the field..."? Just think of it, what do you think was the situation at home which forced her to "go out"? What was she going to do out? Don't you think she thought of some opportunities out than where she was? Who could have influenced her to take that extra ordinary step that opened effective open doors for her? Are there working principles we learn here?

Read (Leviticus.19:10). Here we learn on some of the Jewish cultures. When you relate it with the story of Ruth the gentile, was it a good culture? Relate it with the parable of the good Samaritan in (Luke.10:25-37; Galatians.6:10 which Christ taught.

Together in groups, study the book of (Proverbs.31:10-31) about this virtuous woman and discuss your findings, then relate it with Ruth's action on work.

In addition, study (2Thes.3:6-15) and discuss, on how Paul warned and at the same time also encouraged the Thessalonian saints who were living disorderly lives.

In conclusion, what was your attitude on work?

WATER BAPTISM (MCEC)

The transliterated Greek word for baptism is "baptizo" which means: "to bury or immerse" and we see this in (Rom.6:3-5; Gal.3:27; Col.2:11-12). Baptism is a symbol of our death with Christ, of being clothed with Christ, and of being circumcised by Christ. It's an outward sign of what takes place when we believe.

Therefore, by definition, Water baptism is the application of water by immersion in the name of the father and of the son and of the Holy spirit as commanded by the Lord Jesus in (Matt.28:19).

John the Baptist practiced a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sin (Mark.1:4), but this was not Christian baptism. After Jesus' death and resurrection, John's baptism was not considered adequate for Christians (Acts.18:25), and the Ephesians who had previously received John's baptism were rebaptized into the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts.19:1-7). However, there's only one Christian baptism (Ephesians.4:5). Baptism is a witness to the world of one's faith in Christ, that's why it's done publicly.

Concerning the meaning of baptism, some true spiritual Christians have believed one view and some the other. All believe that they are following the teaching of the Bible. Whichever view we hold, we should not judge and condemn one another. The Bible does not give unequivocal answers to some questions. Paul tells us that, "there's one body and one spirit- just as you were called to one hope when you were called- one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and father of all, who is over all and through all and in all" (Eph.4:4-6). Blessings!!!