

Hello! This Is Dorothy -

We are having an exciting time of seeing from God's Word what it means to know redemption, to be free; free by the paying of Blood of Jesus Christ for all our sin. Do you feel free today? Do you feel a bondage? Is there something of yesterday that is always on you? Do you realize that God the Holy Spirit wants to breathe into you that awesome sense of just having His liberty, and it is forgiven and it is forgotten? He is the One who alone could meet that price, and He paid that price. Oh, how grateful are our hearts to our blessed Redeemer!

You know, I love to think that with the redemption, that little **Book of Ruth** holds so much for us. The redeemer has to be a kinsman and he has to be able to redeem. Redemption is effected by the redeemer paying the just demand in full; he has to pay the whole price. Redemption is effected by the one, who, in Scripture, is called the kinsman redeemer or the *geol*. With the one who is handling this, there is a redemption which is wholly of God. There is a redemption through a Person, our Lord Jesus. It is a redemption by blood and it is a redemption by power. Now all of those necessities are shown in the **Book of Exodus**. Although we are not going to go into what I am talking about in that area, there is a claim right through Scripture that

shows this must be so.

In the **Book of Ruth**, you have this beautiful story. It is a sad story to begin with, but it is one of those stories that you like to get to the end of the book and find the good conclusion, because it is worth reading; it turns out very well indeed! The story of **Ruth** is that there was a little family in an area where people really would not have noticed too much. They would not have been aware in this little area that there was this man called Benjamin, who had been born there through his mother, Rachel, as she died giving birth to him. The point we notice is this little village that is talked very much in coming days from that incident, is called Bethlehem-judah. This is where this little family lived. This little family were in problems with other people around. Great lawlessness was in the nation and, in these terrible happenings, people all tried to work out things the best they could, but there was not the repentance and the turning to God. So God, to get the attention of the people, allowed famine, disaster, and problems. Did you ever realize that what you are surrounded with, God is often allowing to get your attention? He is looking for repentance and a turning to Him. But what happened instead, was this little family decided they would work out how to solve their problem. They thought, "No problem! We are having famine, but we understand that in the land where the Moab people are living, we can go over there and we can make out and work out what to do." That is where we go wrong

if we love the Lord. We have our human solutions and, when we have our human solutions, we turn our back on God's provision.

You see, the head of this household, Elimelech, was willing to leave all that God had supplied. He said, *My God is King*. Actually, that is what his name, Elimelech, stood for. You might be saying, "My God is King, but, wait a minute. I am in trouble, so I am going to work this out." That is exactly what Elimelech did when he took his family away. The name of the place he was leaving was called *the house of bread and praise*, Bethlehem-judah. So this one left, — he said, "Yes, my God is King. I am going to work out a wonderful solution. I am going to look out for my family."

Have you ever done that? Are you doing that? Are you wondering why you are not walking close to the Lord? You are trying to get yourself out of trouble, and you are doing it your way. You are taking over the answer instead of seeing why these things are happening around you. Why is there famine? Perhaps there is no famine in your case, but why these problems? Instead of saying, *Oh Lord, I really want You to be my King. I want You, yes, to be my God, my King. I do not want to turn my back on the provision of what You have for me. Would you forgive me, Lord? And, Lord, right now, put Your finger on those things in my life. I thank You, by faith, that as You put those things before me right now in my heart by Your Spirit, I am going to confess them and make them right.*

My provision is in You and my joy and my life is in Jesus, my Lord and Saviour, my God and King. The Lord bless you as you make that decision.

In His glorious Name. Amen.