



When Righteousness is Risky Business (Part 2)

0213Ru3.10(11)

Ruth 3:10



⁶ So she went down to the threshing floor and did according to all that her mother-in-law had commanded her.⁷ When Boaz had eaten and drunk and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain; and she came secretly, and uncovered his feet and lay down.⁸ And it happened in the middle of the night that the man was startled and bent forward; and behold, a woman was lying at his feet.⁹ And he said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth your

maid. So spread your covering over your maid, for you are a close relative."¹⁰ Then he said, "May you be blessed of the LORD, my daughter. You have shown your last kindness to be better than the first by not going after young men, whether poor or rich.

– Ruth 3:6–10 (NASB)

The Passage is Also Found on Page 200 of the Old Testament Section of the Pew Bibles

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| I. Act One: The Royal Line with Hope in Ruin (1:1-22) II. Act Two: The Royal Line with Hope Renewed (2:1-23) III. Act Three: The Royal Line with Hope at Risk (3:1-18) IV. Act Four: The Royal Line with Hope Restored (4:1-17) |
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III. Act Three: The Royal Line with Hope at Risk (3:1-18)

A. Scene One: Remedy Proposed (vv. 1-5) **or** *Naomi Proposes: A Husband for Ruth*

B. Scene Two: Reception or Rejection (vv. 6-15) **or** *Righteousness on a Threshing Floor*

1. When Righteousness is Risky Business . . .

a. Prayerfully Listen to Godly Counsel (v. 6-7a)
Evident in Ruth's Heeding Naomi's Advice

b. Patiently Trust God and His Timing (7b-9)
Evident in Ruth's Patience in Waiting for Boaz to Act

c. Practice Loyalty to Others and Not to Self (10)
Evident in Ruth's Hessed Toward Others

Through this passage we find some guidelines that will help us navigate our lives with confidence that ultimately nothing is at risk because God is in control. For us, risk becomes trust.

(1) "Kindness" -- some translations render it "loyalty" (Heb. word *hesed*)

Used in over 125 vv. in the Psalms (exclusively of God). It's also a characteristic that should be evident in our lives.