

“BLINDED”

RUTH 1:14-22

In our rather fast-paced, frenzied lifestyle, it isn't difficult to speed right by the kindness of God. This world speaks so loudly that the still small voice of God can become distant or even missed. Defaulting too quickly to the horizontal, we major on complaints.

MISSING THE BLESSING

① C _____ (1:14-15)

Scripture abounds with examples and exhortations for the ministry of _____ (Lk. 7:38; Rom. 12:15; 2 Cor. 2:4; 7:7; 1 Thess. 4:18; 1 Peter 3:8).

And most of all, the greatest compassion comes from Him alone (Hebrews 4:15).

Such a statement urges us to follow the steps of the Savior and show compassion on others who:

1. are _____ around you (Matthew 9:36)
2. are _____ hungry (Matthew 15:32)
3. are _____ in health (Mark 1:41)
4. have experienced _____ (Luke 7:13)
5. _____ and come home (Luke 15:20)
6. have fallen into sinful _____ (Lk. 18:24)

② C _____ (1:16-18)

The Lord isn't _____ to working only in His chosen people (cf. Daniel 4:34-35)

These verses identify several amazing pledges:

1. A firm willingness to a _____.
2. A firm willingness to a _____.
3. A firm willingness to a _____.
4. A firm willingness to a _____.
5. A firm willingness to a _____.

③ C _____ (1:19-21)

We do not have a Redeemer who is _____ by our hurts; He understands and He cares.

Naomi's appraisal of God is punitive. She negates:

1. The _____ of God (*He has dealt bitterly with me*)
2. The _____ of God (*He has emptied me*)
3. The _____ of God (*He has witnessed against me*)
4. The _____ of God (*He has afflicted me*)

CONCLUSION

Into Naomi's gloomy scene and deep darkness, in the midst of utter despair and great bitterness, a new day is about to dawn. The sun is about to rise again.

Sadly, too often we miss the blessings of God and give ourselves to a litany of complaints.