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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT: A1474 ~ Ruth Married Boaz.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

In a poem called The Weaver written some sixty years ago, it pictures the author's life like a woven picture on canvas being worked by God, the weaver of life. The poem says the dark threads of black and grey are as necessary as the threads of gold and silver in the weaver's hands. In each of our lives and at the present time, all we can see is the back of the weaving. The threads are showing and the picture is not at all clear. Only when our earthly time is finished will the weaving be completed. Then we will see the real beauty of the picture from God's side. And we will be overjoyed at the breath-taking sight it will be.

As we look closer, we realize that without the dark threads of life's sorrows and troubles, the weaving would lack depth and personality. That is so true in our lives. We need the sunshine and shadows of life to develop our beauty of character. When we feel God has forsaken us, those are the very times when we should claim His promises and cling to Him. In the Bible book Hebrews Chapter 13, God says: "I will never leave you; I will never abandon you." These words are for all who trust God to take care of every detail of their lives.

Have you become a child of God yet? Have you given yourself to the Lord Jesus and asked Him to forgive you for all the ugly things you have done and are doing? He is willing to save anyone, no matter how bad they have been, provided they turn away from wrong things and start doing right. God's Son, Jesus came to earth to bridge the separating gulf between God and people caused by our wrongdoing. The Lord Jesus did this because God takes no joy in the death of the wicked. In fact, in the Bible book, John Chapter 3, we are told just how much God really loved the world. "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life."

God's plan to forgive and save mankind took nearly two thousand years from when the promise of God's redeemer was given to Abraham until the birth of the Lord Jesus. And the wedding between Ruth and Boaz in today's drama was part of this plan.

DRAMA - The Bible In Living Sound.

Wedding customs vary from country to country and generation to generation. Less than a hundred years ago in Australia, all the weddings took place on a Wednesday. It was considered a bad start to get married on a Saturday.

Of course, such beliefs have given way to common sense. How could a lifetime commitment between a husband and wife be affected by the day of the week it was entered?

In Israel at the time of Ruth and Naomi the people followed God's instructions about land inheritance. So smaller tribes would not lose their land to larger tribes, a system of "kinsman redeemer" was applied when no sons had been born into a family. This system enabled the farming of land to continue. The nearest kinsman was not obligated to redeem his relatives' property but it was expected of him. To refuse to do this was to hurt the family and tribe as well as his own reputation. In the third chapter of the Bible book of Ruth, Naomi advised Ruth what to do to sort out the land inheritance and her own future. Although Ruth considered the custom bizarre, she obeyed Naomi's instructions. Boaz did not send Ruth home at midnight after he had spoken to her. In the first shades of light Boaz sent her back to Naomi because he did not want any gossip. God's people always have to be careful not to cause any slur or scoffing to harm the good name of Almighty God.

At the time of Jesus Christ, the wedding arrangements in Israel were made between a couple but they did not live together for a year. The bridegroom went off with his father to build a new house for the new family. The bride under her mother's training, learnt how to take care of the needs of a household. In the Bible book, Matthew Chapter 1, Mary, the mother of Jesus was expecting a baby by the power of the Holy Spirit during that year before she and her husband Joseph were to start living together. Joseph knew the baby was not his and considered how he could quietly break off the wedding. God sent an angel in a dream to Joseph to tell him to marry Mary because her special baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Joseph obeyed God and did not live intimately with Mary until after Jesus was born.

In recent decades, many couples enter into a sexual relationship without going through the preparation for marriage or taking their wedding vows. The promises made for a lifelong commitment to each other spoken during the wedding ceremony are for the emotional and spiritual security of the new family.

In the Bible, all other sexual relationships apart from those between a husband and his wife are called impure and wicked. The Bible book First Corinthians, Chapter 6, says: "Avoid immorality. Any other sin a man commits does not affect his body; but the man who is guilty of sexual immorality sins against his own body." Our bodies are to give acceptable service to God, not to cause us to fall into sin. What is sin? Sin is turning our back on God's ways and following our own. This rebelling against God shows itself in symptoms of stealing, telling lies, cheating on others, and many more harmful actions. These will be held against a person if they are not repented of and confessed to God, asking for forgiveness.

In the Bible book of Revelation, Chapter 21, we are given a list of people who will not be in heaven. They are: "cowards, traitors, perverts, murderers, the immoral, those who practice magic, those who worship idols, and all liars – the place for them is the lake burning with fire and sulphur, which is the second death."

The time to repent of all past sins is now! Ask the Lord Jesus for forgiveness and make things right with Him and others where you can. Your very future beyond this life depends on this request.

MUSIC - Integrity Music.

That was Chris Christensen singing "Humble Yourselves."

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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