

A photograph of a dirt road winding through a valley. The road is reddish-brown and curves to the left. The valley floor is green with grass and some trees. In the background, there are large, reddish-brown rock formations or hills. The sky is blue with some light clouds. The text "Road Of The Pilgrims" is overlaid on the image in a large, bold, black serif font.

Road Of The Pilgrims

Spring 5766 (2005)

Scripture – Let Us Study

Is Your Patriotism Scriptural?

Is your patriotism Scriptural? The patriotism that is commonly practiced today is not. The following are some reasons why. As you read these reasons, prayerfully consider whether or not your patriotism is Scriptural.

1. The devil is the prince of this world. All physical countries are included in the world which he is the prince of. John 12:31 – **“Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the prince of this world (satan) be cast out.”** We do not want to support the kingdom of the prince of this world, who shall be cast out.

2. We are to be in the world, but **“not of the world”**, even as Yahshua is **“not of the world”**. (John 17:14) We cannot be the Almighty’s children, and yet be a part of the world. 2 Corinthians 6:17-18 – **“‘Wherefore, come out from among them, and be ye separate,’ saith Yahweh, ‘And touch not the unclean thing (the world), and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters,’ saith Yahweh Almighty.”** Are you of the world, touching the unclean thing; or are you simply in the world?

3. **“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof, but he that doeth the will of the Almighty abideth forever.”** (1 John 2:15-17) Who do you love, Yahweh or the world? Will you abide forever, or will you pass away with satan and his world?

4. **“The friendship of the world is enmity with Yahweh. Whosoever, therefore, will be a friend of the world is the enemy of Yahweh.”** (James 4:4) Either we are Yahweh’s friend, or the world’s friend. Which are you?

5. We must not try to be like the nations about us. 1 Samuel 8:5-7 – **“Yahweh’s people said, ‘Make us a king to judge us, like all the nations.’ And Yahweh said, ‘They have rejected**

Me, that I should not reign over them.’ ” We must reject either Yahweh or the world. Which one will you reject?

6. Yahshua’s Kingdom is not of this world. **“Yahshua said, ‘My Kingdom is not of this world; if My Kingdom were of this world, then would My servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now is My Kingdom not from hence.’ ”** (John 18:36) We are to be **“strangers and pilgrims on the earth”** (Hebrews 11:9-10, 13-16), seeking Yahshua’s Heavenly country, the New Jerusalem, which shall descend with Him when He returns. Revelation 21:1-2 – **“And I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea. And I saw the set-apart city, New Jerusalem, coming down from Yahweh out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”** New Jerusalem is the only country that we should give our allegiance and patriotism to.

7. We must choose between Yahweh and the **“strange countries”** of this world (Hebrews 11:9). **“If it seem evil unto you to serve Yahweh, choose you this day whom you will serve, whether the idols which your fathers served, or the idols in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve Yahweh. Yahweh forbid that we should forsake Yahweh, to serve idols. We will serve Yahweh, for He is the Almighty.”** (Joshua 24:15-18) **“No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.”** (Matthew 6:24)

As clearly shown, the patriotism that is so commonly embraced today is not Scriptural, and is not smiled upon by Yahweh. Which country (kingdom) do you give your allegiance to? Does Yahweh smile on your patriotism?

-Rivqah (R. J. Coover)

Articles

Wise, Simple

We all want to have knowledge, don't we? We want to know things and be smart and educated. But there are different kinds of knowledge. Let's take a look at them. "I would have you wise unto that which is good, and simple concerning evil." (Romans 16:19) "My people is wise to do evil, but to do good they have not knowledge." (Jeremiah 4:22) We see exact opposites in these verses. The world is full of knowledge concerning evil, and void of knowledge concerning righteousness. But we are to be the opposite of that. "And Yahweh commanded the man (Adam), saying, 'Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat. BUT of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof, thou shalt surely die.' " (Genesis 2:16-17) The tree that Yahweh was protecting Adam and Eve from was the tree that would give them knowledge concerning evil. Man ate of that tree. Genesis 3:1-7 – "Now the serpent (satan) was more subtil than any beast of the field which Yahweh had made; and he said unto the woman, 'Yea, hath Yahweh said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?' 2 And the woman (Eve) said, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, Yahweh hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, nether shall ye touch it, lest ye die.' 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, 'Ye shall not surely die. 5 For Yahweh doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be mighty ones, knowing good and evil.' 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened..." That disobedience resulted in a world of sin and death.

We think, “Oh, if only Eve had not taken of the tree. Oh! If only they had not eaten it. Then the world would never have known sin and death.” But sadly, many many people who believe in Yahweh, read His Word, and say they are following Him are doing the same exact thing that Adam and Eve did. How?

Yahweh says, “Set no wicked thing before thine eyes” (Ps.101:3), and “Be simple concerning evil” (Rom.16:19). The devil sends his messengers which say to us, “Oh, you aren’t allowed to get knowledge, huh? You have to be uneducated.” (Gen.3:1) We say, “No, we are allowed to receive so much knowledge. (Gen.3:2) Yahweh has instructed us in His Word of life and truth, and we are to live it, and teach it to our children.(Deut. 6; Ephes. 6:4) Only concerning evil are we to be simple, for the knowledge of evil leads to death. (Gen. 3:3)” The devil says, “You will not die. You are strong enough to stand up against it. Look how interesting it is. After all, the evil things are the current news. Don’t you want to know what’s happening around you? Go ahead and get a television. ‘Get television’ equals ‘get knowledge’. And get a radio. Radios will tell you so many things that you would never know otherwise. And be sure to get the daily newspaper, for in it there are so many delicious things to read, things that will make you desire more and more and more. And you shall become wise, and educated. You say that you are to instruct your children in the Word of Yahweh? Why bother? Look at all the knowledge you are getting from the tree in the midst of the garden. Send your children to that tree too. Send them to a real school. You’re depriving them by keeping them at home. In a genuine, government run school they will learn so many things that they would never learn at home.” And we say, “satan, that’s all garbage. Get behind me.” Do we? Well, a very few do, but the majority does not. The majority of believers say, “Really? You mean all that stuff really tastes good? Well great, we’ll go for it then.” And satan sits back and smiles as Yahweh’s people learn things that they never would have learned if they had stayed within Yahweh’s boundaries. And next they do things that they never would have done if they had stayed within His boundaries. And pretty soon, they are people that they never would have been if they had stayed

within His boundaries.

People of Yahweh! I beseech you! If any of you are partaking of the tree in the midst of the garden, get away from it. You don't need that tree to give you knowledge of good. Knowledge of good things comes from Yahshua, the tree of Life. You may think that you can withstand the evil that is being pumped into your lives day by day via television, radio, newspaper, and/or public school, etc., but you may be surprised to find out someday that these things are destroying your life and your family.

“And Yahweh said, ‘Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous, I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto Me; and if not, I will know.’ And the messengers of Yahweh said, ‘We will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of Yahweh, and Yahweh hath sent us to destroy it.’ Then Yahweh rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah, brimstone and fire, from Yahweh out of heaven. And He overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.... and lo, the smoke of the country went up as the smoke of a furnace.” (Genesis 18:20-21, 19:13,24-25,28) You can only drink so much alcohol before it begins to take over. You can only get so close to fire before it burns you. You can only get so involved with Sodom and Gomorrah before you are laid waste along with it.

-Rivqah (R. J. Coover)

The Poem Page

Be Faithful

I hear them speaking, around me
Of storms that perhaps are near (Dan. 12:1; Mt. 24:21-22),
And I wonder, "Will they come
While I'm making my journey here?"
You say,....
"My child, you must not fear (Heb. 13:5-6),
The way is planned for you. (Prov. 16:9).
My child, do not fear (Gen. 15:1),
For I am faithful and true. (Rev. 19:11)
You must put your trust in Me (Prov. 3:5),
Yahweh, the great I AM (Exo. 3:14),
For I am leading you (Deut. 1:30)
With a true and steady hand." (Deut. 7:8; Jn. 10:27-29)

The words that I hear around me
Cause in my mind wondering.
Shall I be called sometime soon
To give my life an offering?
You say,....
"My child, you must not fear (Deut. 1:29),
This way is planned for you. (Psa. 121:8)
I am the One guiding (Prov. 3:6; Sirach 37:15),
Always faithful, always true. (Deut. 7:9; Psa. 119:160)
You must put your trust in Me (1 Cor. 1:9-10)
In the day and the night. (Psa. 62:5-8)
I am the Way the Truth,
The real Life and the sweet Light." (Jn. 14:6; Eccles. 11:7)

Shall my body bear cruel torture (4 Maccabees 5:22-23),
My life be given in pain? (4 Maccabees 6:27)

If it's borne with love for You (1 Cor. 16:14),
Then I shall receive it again. (Jn. 10:17)
You say,....
"My child, now fix your eyes
Upon My majesty (Col. 3:1-2; Jn. 1:14),
And see the wondrous things
Which I have in store for thee. (Isa. 64:6; 1 Cor. 2:9-10)
A man may kill your body,
But he can never harm
Your soul which I protect
In the shelter of My arm." (Matt. 10:28)

And I reckon that these trials
Cannot even be compared
With the blessings I shall know
In the city You have prepared. (Rom. 8:18)
A new body shall be given (1 Cor. 15:51-54)
Which no man can take away,
A celestial body (1 Cor. 15:42-44),
And hark! Mine heart doth hear you say,
"None is able to sever
Our bonding love so true (Rom. 8:35-39),
Love reaching out from Me,
And then reaching back from you. (Song of Sol. 8:7)
Be faithful, then, till death,
And I will give to thee
A shining Crown of Life (Prov. 4:18; Dan. 12:3)
That lasts for eternity." (Rev. 2:10)

- Rivqah (R. J. Coover)

Thoughts To Ponder

The following thoughts were forwarded to us by Bro. Shlomo L. We found them very interesting. I hope you will too.

TWO TOUGH QUESTIONS

Question 1: If you knew a woman who was pregnant, who had 8 children already, three who were deaf, two who were blind, one mentally retarded, and she had syphilis, would you recommend that she have an abortion? Read the next question before looking at the response for this one.

Question 2: It is time to elect a new world leader, and only your vote counts. Here are the facts about the three candidates. Candidate A Associates with crooked politicians, and consults with astrologists. He's had two mistresses. He also chain smokes and drinks 8 to 10 martinis a day. Candidate B He was kicked out of office twice, sleeps until noon, used opium in college and drinks a quart of whiskey every evening. Candidate C He is a decorated war hero. He's a vegetarian, doesn't smoke, drinks an occasional beer and never cheated on his wife. Which of these candidates would be your choice? Decide first... no peeking, then turn the page for the response.

Candidate A is Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Candidate B is Winston Churchill.

Candidate C is Adolph Hitler.

And, by the way, on your answer to the abortion question: If you said YES you just killed Beethoven.

Pretty interesting isn't it? Makes a person think before judging someone. Wait till you see the end of this note! Keep reading...

Never be afraid to try something new. Remember: Amateurs...built the ark. Professionals...built the Titanic

And finally, can you imagine working for a company that has a little more than 500 employees and has the following statistics: * 29 have been accused of spousal abuse * 7 have been arrested for fraud * 19 have been accused of writing bad checks * 117 have directly or indirectly bankrupted at least 2 businesses * 3 have done time for assault * 71 cannot get a credit card due to bad credit * 14 have been arrested on drug-related charges * 8 have been arrested for shoplifting * 21 are currently defendants in lawsuits * 84 have been arrested for drunk driving in the last year...

Can you guess which organization this is? It's the 535 members of the United States Congress. The same group that crank out hundreds of new laws each year designed to keep the rest of us in line.

Think about this. Yahweh bless you.

The Missionary Column

Boldness In Messiah

-  Acts 28:30-31..... Truly we want this boldness that Shaul (Paul) had. He recognized the persecution of men as a missionary opportunity. Full of the Spirit He proclaimed the truth.
-  Romans 1:16..... He cried, “For I am not ashamed...” O let our hearts rise up within us, and let our voices join with his as we exclaim, “We are not ashamed of Yahweh.”
-  Luke 12:9..... Here we read the consequences of lacking that all-important boldness for Messiah. But....
-  Luke 12:8; Psalm 51:13; Romans 10:9-10..... In these verses we read the blessings that will come, both on us and others, when we are bold in Messiah: 1. We will be confessed before the messengers of Yahweh. 2. Sinners shall be converted unto Yahweh. 3. We shall be saved.
-  Ecclesiastes 11:6..... We are not to fear that our work will be useless. We are to unashamedly cast our bread upon the waters (Ecclesiastes 11:1). We will only be useless if we fail to do this.
-  Acts 8:1-4..... Verse four is very significant. Terrible persecution did not stop Messiah’s followers from preaching. It did the very exact opposite: it caused them to preach.
-  Hebrews 11:24-27..... Mosheh (Moses) was bold. He was willing to bear the reproach of Messiah. Through

his consistent boldness, even when Yahweh's people were putting him down (See Exodus 5, specifically verses 19-21), he led the children of Yahweh to freedom.



1 Maccabees 2:19-22..... This man had the boldness to guide his family in the covenant of Yahweh (the most important and far-reaching mission work in the world) in spite of what "everyone else" was doing.



Acts 8:18-23..... Kepha (Peter) is practicing the same boldness that he learned from his Master and Teacher, Yahshua. (See Mark 8:31-33.) We read on in Acts 8:24 that Kepha's boldness brought about repentance. So it is in



1 Kings 21..... Read the chapter, and specifically verses 27-29.



John 1:35-51..... Yahanan (John), Kepha, and Philip all knew of Yahshua. Were they quiet about it? No! Psalm 51:15.... HalleluYah!



2 Maccabees 6:18-31..... By his boldness, this man was a noble example unto all his nation, encouraging and inspiring them, and giving them hope to persevere unto the end.



Let us lift up our voices with the cloud of witnesses gone before us, and cry, "I am not ashamed! O Yahweh, open Thou my lips, and my mouth shall shew forth Thy praise!" I encourage you, brethren and sisters, "Let your soul rejoice in His mercies, and be not ashamed of His praise." (Sirach 51:29)

- Rivqah (R. J. Coover)

The Guardian

(previously, The Menfolk's Page)

Give Me The Favor

(A Parent's Prayer)

O give me the favor and the patience I need
To plant in these precious hearts Your seeds,
The seeds that are mine to plant and cultivate,
Before the soil's hard, and I find that it's too late.

O give me the favor and the patience I need
To guide and direct these little feet,
The feet that are mine to turn in the way
By example and teaching day by day.

O give me the favor and the patience I need
To turn these little hearts to Thee,
To instill in them a love for Your Ways.
They'll be young and moldable for just a few days.

O what a task You've given me!
It's what You ask, and it's what I'll give Thee.

O what a task You've given me,
To raise these precious souls for thee.

-R. J. Coover

The following is an excerpt from “Young Man, Be Strong”.

Dealing With Your Enemy

David G. Burkholder

Greek mythology tells of an island from which came the most beautiful and alluring music. However, anyone who sailed near it disappeared. Many sailors lost their lives there. The island was famous for its treachery.

The story tells of some who succeeded in resisting the temptation. One captain is said to have filled his sailors' ears with wax and had himself tied to the masthead when they sailed by the island. Shutting it all out was his method.

Another captain solved the problem of allurement by seeing to it that his own ship had better music on board than that which came from the island. He and his satisfied crew sailed safely by the island because they were content with what they had.

It will take a combination of the two captains' methods for you to sail safely by all that your enemy will put in your way. You will have to stop your ears to his temptations. Even more often, you will have to stop your eyes. You will need to be stern with yourself. As [Yahshua] said. “If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out.” You will need to say no and mean no.

Also, you need to know that the joy you have in living right is better than the pleasure Satan offers. Many people can assure you that [Yahweh's] joy *is* better. And they are developing more and more of a taste for it!

Besides these two methods, here are several other suggestions.

Remember what a liar Satan is. Don't let him make you believe that any religion is good enough and whatever you call right is right. Don't be caught by thinking the easy way leads to heaven when [Yahshua] said that way to heaven is narrow. Be wary of those who

talk right but don't live right. Their way is empty and headed for disaster.

You must be determined. You must hate sin personally. Personal determination by itself is not nearly enough, but you can't do without it.

Above all else, *lean hard on [Yahweh]*. To be successful over Satan, we must look to [Yahweh], our deliverer! He is a personal friend as real as our personal enemy. "Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world."

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"What you practice you will become. If you live nobly, you will have noble character. If you live selfishly, your character will be selfish....."

"So, young man, your character, is largely the result of your choices....."

- "Young Man, Be Strong"

The Keeper At Home

(previously, Housewives' / Mothers' Page)

GLEANINGS FROM RUTH

It is hard to find in Scripture a lovelier story than the one of Ruth. This Old Testament book is chock full of truth and application for us as women, both young and old. Lessons from this incredible and wonderful narrative will be presented here as the Master leads. Their purpose will be to call you deeper into understanding and living His Word as well as to call you upward, onward, and forward into new places in Him.

In light of last issue's topic, honoring your mother and father, (which was so rich, by the way!) I felt the Master would have us take a look at the devotion, loyalty, and honor that Ruth displayed toward Naomi, her mother-in-law. If you have never read this powerful book, or if it's been a while, consider taking a moment to do so now. Be encouraged – there are only four chapters!

First, let's look at Ruth's devotion to Naomi. In chapter one, Naomi released each of her daughter-in-laws to return to their own mothers' homes, thus signifying encouragement for them to re-marry and start a new life. Orpah chose to obey Naomi and turned back toward her own people. This would be the expected response from a young woman longing for a husband, a home, and a family.

Ruth, however, chose a second option. Scripture says, "But she clave unto her." The Hebrew word is dabak, which means, "to stick like glue." The fact that Naomi no longer had a husband or any sons meant that she needed someone to take care of her. So Ruth chose to stay and cleave to Naomi for the purpose of taking care of her. She chose to become as a daughter to her. She went beyond the call of duty and chose the extraordinary thing to do. She went beyond the normal customs of the day and beyond the rule of Law. She instead chose the "royal law of love," as James calls it (James 2:8). Ruth's devoted heart

caused her to want to help and care for her mother-in-law in a special, loving way. Ruth prioritized her daughter-servant role to Naomi and yet, in due season, the Master added a husband as well.

Take a moment and examine your own attitude toward your mom. Do you have a “Ruth-like” heart? How about when she’s stressed out, not feeling well, or has a headache? Do you prioritize your daughter-servant role with your mother? Be honest with yourself and let the Master show you the truth. That’s the first step to going higher in Yahshua.

A close relative to devotion is loyalty. Ruth showcased her love and loyalty for Naomi in her thoughtfulness of Naomi’s needs. Verse 2:14 reads as follows: “Now Boaz said to her at mealtime, ‘Come here and eat of the bread, and dip your piece of bread in the vinegar.’ So she sat beside the reapers, and he passed parched grain to her, and she ate and was satisfied, and kept some back.” Why did she keep some back? Verse 18 answers the question: “So she brought out and gave to her mother-in-law what she had kept back after she had been satisfied.” Wow! Unselfish love! Thoughtful consideration! Loyalty! Ruth subscribed to a “I want to be a blessing philosophy” rather than a “give me lots of blessings philosophy.” She had an innate understanding of Yahshua’s statement that it is better to give than to receive.

Another way that Ruth displayed loyalty to Naomi is by her submissive obedience, as summarized in 3:5-6: “And she said to her, ‘All that you say to me I will do.’” So she went down to the threshing floor, and did according to all that her mother-in-law instructed her.” Why do you think Ruth was able to obey so completely? I believe that Ruth had a genuine respect for Naomi and trusted her. Ruth trusted that Naomi had her best interests at heart. Ruth perceived that Naomi was not out to hurt her or keep her from “having a good time.” Ruth’s understanding of this mother’s love for her resulted in trust. It also resulted in a teachable spirit that was open to the advice, wisdom, and instruction of an older woman. We know that in Titus 2 that the older women are to teach the younger women, but this is impossible if the younger group are unwilling to hear and receive. It takes a teachable spirit to do this. Ruth models for us this teachable spirit toward Naomi.

Finally, let’s look at how Ruth honors Naomi and the

blessings that ensue. Ruth 2:2 says, “So Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, ‘Let me go to the field, and glean heads of grain after him in whose sight I may find favor.’ ?” Ruth volunteered to be the one to go work in the fields and glean the fallen grain. This was back-breaking labor and extremely strenuous. It would have been more difficult for an aged woman to perform this kind of work. Ruth honored Naomi by offering to undertake this endeavor all by herself and gleaning for both of them. Additionally, by this beautiful offer, Ruth honored Naomi by protecting her from the humiliation associated with the gleaning process, thus protecting her both physically and emotionally. The book of Leviticus tells us to honor the elderly or the aged, so Ruth was also fulfilling this as well. We know that Ruth did much more than this, according to chapter 2:11 where Boaz acclaims Ruth’s faithfulness: “It has been reported to me all that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband.....” What were the results of honoring her mother-in-law?

»» The Master gave her favor with Boaz (2:10).

»» Boaz instructs her to stay in his field so he can bless her abundantly (2:8).

»» She was told to follow immediately after his servant girls which would mean a greater harvest since the pickings were better (2:8).

»» Boaz commands the young men to leave her alone, thus affording a special protection for her (2:9).

»» Boaz gives her a unique privilege of drinking water from his vessels any time she is thirsty (2:9).

»» Boaz pronounces a special blessing over her that includes the Master’s protection and provision (2:12).

»» Boaz acknowledges Ruth at mealtime by inviting her to sit with his reapers, a privilege that the average gleaner would not have enjoyed (2:14).

»» Boaz directs his men to let her go among the sheaves; this was not the usual custom since gleaners were to glean the corners of the fields and not be in the center of the field with the boss’ reapers (2: 15).

»» Boaz even goes the extra, extra mile and instructs his men to let some grain fall out of their bundles so Ruth can glean even more (2:16).

Why was the blessing of the Master so abundant? The answer lies in reading the fifth commandment: "Honor your father and mother, as Yahweh your Elohim has commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you in the land which Yahweh your Elohim is giving you." Simply put, Ruth honored her mother-in-law (who was as a mother to her) and Yahweh then honored Ruth. The Master caused things to go well with Ruth. These words, "that it may be well with you" indicate blessings and financial prosperity in the here and now, not just spiritual rewards in the here after. Ruth and Naomi were still poor so this isn't a get rich scheme, but it does show that the Master will bless and cause favor to come to our lives as we honor our fathers and mothers as Ruth did.

The life lessons of devotion, loyalty, and honor all find their place in the book of Ruth. I pray that as you read through this article, these become apparent to you and that you press even one step closer toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of Elohim in Messiah Yahshua (Phil. 3:14).

Note: For further information, you may want to read about the Mosaic Law of gleaning in Lev. 19:9-10; 23:22; Deut. 24:19.

- Mrs. Sandra D'Entremont; Tucson, AZ

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“Gleanings From Ruth” was very encouraging to me, and I read the Book of Ruth along with it. My notes on this beautiful and insightful book are as follows:

Ruth

Chapter One

vs. 4 first mention of Ruth

vs. 16-17 Ruth’s beautiful pledge of devotion to Naomi

Chapter Two

vs. 12 beautiful blessing

vs. 14 She keeps some parched corn / grain back.

vs. 17,23 diligence

vs. 18 She gives to Naomi that grain she kept back.

Chapter Three

vs. 5 sweet submission

vs. 11 She is virtuous.

vs. 17 Boaz has kind concern for Ruth and her mother-in-law.

vs. 18 Ruth is instructed to be still, and be not anxious.

Chapter Four

vs. 15 Naomi, your grandson shall restore, nourish, and encourage you. Why? Because your daughter-in-law, who loves you so, has borne him, and will teach him (by word and example) to love you with the same devotion.

So those are my thoughts on the Book of Ruth. Perhaps you would be interested in reading the Book yourself, and taking your own notes on it. If you would like to share them, feel free to send them to Post Office Box 7 ~ Shippensburg, PA 17257. Yah bless!

The Children's Page

A Wonderful Day At Grandma's House

by LydiYah Ellen Coover

Steve awoke with a start. *Today is the day we're going to visit grandma*, he remembered. He jumped out of his little bed and ran down the hall to the kitchen.

"Well good morning my little fellow," smiled mommie. "Did daddy call you, or did you just decide to get up on your own?" she asked.

"I just heard you out here mommie and so I got up and came out," replied five year old Steve. "That's OK, isn't it mommie?"

"Oh that's just fine. I just know daddy usually calls you honey," said mommie cheerfully.

"Mommie," said Steve. "Why did you ask me if daddy had called me? You know he calls me every morning."

Mommie laughed. "Daddy is outside right now so I wondered if he had come in and called you, or if you had gotten up on your own."

"OK," said Steve.

While the little family ate their breakfast, Steve kept thinking about going to grandma's house later that day. After the meal, he helped mommie with the dishes while daddy read some. "Mommie, when are we going to go?" he asked in the middle of dishes.

"A little later on sweetheart," she replied.

"Are we almost there?" Steve asked for the sixth time. They were on their way to grandma's house now.

"Almost," replied daddie good naturedly.

As soon as they pulled in the driveway, and daddie stopped the car, Steve unhooked his seatbelt and jumped out. "I'm going on in," he hollered as loud as he could.

Mommie and daddie stepped out of the car shaking their heads at him.

Steve went running up the sidewalk. He didn't bother to knock on the door. They never did that ritual at grandma's house. He burst in the door happily. "Grandma, where are you?" he called loudly.

"Well hi there Big Boy," she said as she came into the kitchen from the livingroom. That was what grandma always called him.

"Hi grandma," said Steve. "We haven't seen you in a long time."

"Right you are," laughed grandma.

Just then, daddie and mommie walked in the door. "Hello mother," smiled daddie.

"Hello," grandma replied. She walked over and gave her grown son a big hug. Then she said, "I almost have lunch on the table. You may take seats."

"Let me help you get it on the table," said mommie.

When they had taken their seats daddie prayed.

"Yahweh," he said, "Thank you for this food and for the many blessings that you give to us. Please guide and direct our visit here today, and give us a safe trip home when we do depart from this place. Bless each one of us according to your will. In Yahshua's name we pray, HalleluYah."

What a delicious meal it was. Grandma always made such wonderful meals.

After it was all over, daddie suggested that they go into the livingroom and sing some together. They all thought that sounded like a lovely idea and so the 4 of them walked into the livingroom.

"Let's start with number 64," said grandma.

"Which one is that?" daddie asked.

"I'm Always Here," grandma replied.

"Why not 'I'm Always There'?" daddie laughed.

When they were done singing, they just sat in the livingroom and talked for a long time. Grandma held Steve in her arms while they talked.

Then daddie said that it was time to go. That made Steve sad. How he loved grandma. After they said goodbye, and hugged and kissed each other, they got in the car and drove away.

That night as Steve helped mommie with the supper dishes, she asked him, "Well Steve, did you have a good day?"

"Mommie," said Steve. "I had a wonderful day!"

Science and the Scriptures

The Water Parable

I recently read something very interesting in my science book. It said that mature plant cells have one or two large vacuoles (water sacs) which take up most of the space inside the cell. It proceeded to explain that when you do not water a plant, it wilts because the vacuoles shrink as their water is used up.

We read that and we think, “Well, that’s interesting. Why didn’t I wonder about why a plant shrivels? Why did I just accept the fact that when you don’t water a plant, it shrivels? Why didn’t I look into it a little more?”

This is very similar to a spiritual situation that many fall into. It is called “leaving our first love”. Revelation 2:4 – **“Nevertheless, I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.”** Messiah is saying in this verse, “Your vacuoles are empty of water. You were so zealous. You could not bear to have evil in your midst, and you were also working for Me. You tried the spirits, and did not tolerate false apostles. You bore affliction patiently, and labored untiringly for My Name’s sake. But, alas, in all of your zeal, you failed to realize that you needed to keep filling up at My Word, the wellspring of Life, if you wanted to keep going. You used up your water. Your vacuoles have shrunk.”

When a plant shrivels, we may water it quickly, hoping it will revive. But if it doesn’t, someone is inevitably going to come and take the pot, carry it outside, and dump it.

Revelation 2:5,7a – **“Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the assemblies”** When Messiah warns us that we are shriveling, and not bearing fruit, we must take heed, and fill

up at the well of Living Water. Otherwise, He shall come swiftly and destroy us. Matthew 7:19 – **“Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.”**

1 Corinthians 10:12 – **“Therefore, let he that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”** Deuteronomy 17:19-20 – **“And Yahweh’s Law shall be with us, and we shall read therein all the days of our lives: that we may learn to fear Yahweh our Elohim, to guard all the words of His commandments and His statutes, to do them: that our hearts be not lifted up above our brethren, and that we turn not aside from the commandment, to the right hand, or to the left: to the end that we may prolong our days in Yahweh’s Kingdom, us and our children in the midst of Yisra’El, His people.”**

-Rivqah Yahsepha

In The Hebrew Tongue

In Daniel 9:25-26 we read of the “Messiah”. Let’s look at the Hebrew original for this word. It is Hebrew # 4899, in the Strongest Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance:

משיח

The letters are as follows: mem, shin, yod, heh

This “yod” is very significant, meaning that Messiah is actually spelled “Messiyah” or “Mashiyach”. Thus the Father’s Name is in this wonderful title that Yahshua bears.
How beautiful!

Prayer Request Corner

Please keep the family and friends of George Oliver Wingert in your prayers. Uncle George, as he was called by those who knew and loved him, passed away 02/20/2005, at 6:03 in the morning. He was greatly loved, and we shall look forward to meeting with him again, in the eternal City of Light.

When you pray, please remember all of our brethren (and everyone else) in the India / Burma / Kachinland area. They are going through some very tough times. There are many many homeless people right now, and there is much heartache. Many lives have been lost.

In 01/2005, we received this news: "The death toll now stands at over 114,000 with predictions of up to 160,000. For them the troubles are over but there are untold millions who are going to suffer because of this. Food supplies have been devastated and water supplies are being contaminated with dead bodies, not only of people, but of animals and other decaying plant life.

"In Indonesia, alone, there are over 1 million homeless. A similar number in Sri Lanka are left homeless.

"..... While most of us can sit back and have nothing more to complain about but a few aches

and pains, or a bit of snow to shovel, others have real problems to complain about.”

Later on, we received this horrible news: “Now comes news of groups who are trafficking in child slavery. Thousands of children are now orphans or separated from their parents. These children wander what remains of the streets in hunger and thirst, and no place to sleep. Thus is created the perfect opportunity for these traffickers in human flesh to run free. Under the guise of helping them they take them to homes or shelters where they are given food and drink, then when the opportunity is right they are shipped out of the country and sold as forced labour and sexual slavery.

“..... Many set themselves up as a charitable group providing orphanages and shelters, only to later ship them out for sale after months or, in some cases even years of waiting.”

I know this is all very sad news and not something that is very pleasant to think about. However, we are so used to easy lifestyles and extreme comfort that it does us good to realize that not everyone has the same privileges we do. Also, we must take into consideration that we may someday (soon) face the same kinds of things. Very important as well is the fact that we must pray, **PRAY**, PRAY for these people who are experiencing so much pain, loss, and heartache. Please keep them in your prayers.

A Voice to the Young

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years when thou shalt say, "I have no pleasure in them."

- Ecclesiastes 12:1

Dearly beloved sisters and brothers,

I have been lately meditating and praying quite a bit on the persecutions that are sure to be coming soon. Whether we will actually bear these persecutions, or whether they will come in our children's or children's children's day is uncertain.

One thing is certain – we must gird ourselves NOW to face the foe. We must be preparing ourselves and getting ready for the day when we may be called to give our lives for the Law of Yahweh. Truly this would be a splendorous and noble death, though we must look deeper than the surface to understand this truth.

Whether or not we, personally, will face the tribulations to come, does not affect the importance of preparing. We must gird ourselves up in the strength and power of Yahweh. We must not love our lives above Him. Should Yahweh will to give us children of our own, we must gear them to be prepared for coming persecution, and to love Yahweh's Torah even unto death.

I know a dear sister who's parents read her and her siblings accounts from the Martyr's Mirror every night, when they were younger. As she says, it did not always make for the most pleasant dreams. But she is thankful that they have always geared her to keep in mind that hard times are coming. I believe that it is healthy to not be conditioned to think that we will always have sweet dreams, comfort, and peace. This is why we, as young people, must prepare ourselves to face tribulation. This is why we must afflict our bodies, and keep them under, as Shaul says in 1 Corinthians 9:27, lest after we have taught the good news to so many, we ourselves should fall in the midst of distress. And moreover, this is why we must have a multi-generational mind set, and train the next generation (and the next) in the very same way.

I want to share with you a parable that Yahweh has given me through as ordinary a thing as a tree that stands right beside my bedroom. I used to have a concern that sometime in a really bad storm, that tree would come down on my room. But my Dad reassured me that it wouldn't, for, said he, it had gone through enough wind and storms to make it strong, and so even a big storm would not be likely to cause it to fall.

My earthly Father taught me this physical lesson, and then my heavenly Father proceeded to teach a spiritual lesson. He showed me that we should rejoice when we face testing and trials, for they are the small winds that make us strong. Thus, when a real storm comes, we will have learned already that Yahweh is our sure foundation and will hold us up in everything. And so, though the winds blow and the thunder roars and lightning strikes at our very hearts, we shall not fall. For we shall be built firm upon the Rock of Ages.

I will close this letter with an admonition from the Scriptures: **Therefore, let he that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.** (1 Corinthians 10:12)

Blessings to you. A sister walking the same path, Rivqah Yahsepha (Rebekah Josepha Coover)

Yahweh is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Be still and know that I am Elohim. I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. Yahweh of hosts is with us, the Elohim of Yah'acove is our refuge.

Psalm 46:1,10-11

Hopefully everyone was blessed with a wonderful Pesach / Chag Matzah (Passover / Unleavened Bread) observance this year. We observed Passover week 03-25-05 (beginning the evening of the 24th) through 03-31-05. We were very blessed by the occasion, and hope the same for all of you. Thank Yahweh for reminding us throughout the year to remember what marvelous things He has done.

Selah.

Shalom shalom to you all.

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