

Week 34  
237/128

**Transforming Daily**  
**“ . . . the Lord had visited His people . . . ”**  
*Ruth 1:6*

Have you ever wondered why it seems that bad things happen to good people? There are volumes of material written on this subject from all ranges of perspective. My perspective is as sinners who have the natural propensity to rebel, resist, and reject God, why does anything good happen to any of us, believers and non-believers alike? The Bible says very clearly that God is not mocked whatever it is that we sow it shall be reaped. But give thanks to God for His Grace and mercy!

Why did God revisit Bethlehem, Judah with “bread?” This is just another way of saying that he brought the famine to an end, but why? The text is not clear here in Ruth as to why God ended the famine. However, since we have the “rest of the story,” as the late Paul Harvey would say, we can conclude, in part, that it was for the purpose of bringing Ruth and Boaz together. In the grander scheme of things, it was to fulfill God’s plan for redemption purposed through the virgin birth, sinless life, substitutionary atoning crucifixion, glorious resurrection, spectacular ascension and the indescribable, yet to be experienced, second coming of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ!

But why did God “revisit” them? Did the people of Bethlehem, Judah repent? It’s possible, but again the text doesn’t specifically say that they repented. Revival is initiated, sustained, and completed by God’s Sovereign acts. It is certain that repentance and renewal is a part revival, that is, in order for the people to personally experience spiritual revival and renewal, they must repent. So it is implied in the text that in some way the people of Bethlehem, Judah repented either before or after God’s re-visitation.

I have experienced genuine revival twice in my life. Once was in the church that I joined after I trusted Christ as my personal Savior, and the other time was while attending Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Both institutions bore the irrefutable marks of souls being saved, lives being further disciplined in the beauty and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, increasing attendance, soul winning became the focus of every endeavor, and missions and ministry involved and included just about everyone.

When God brings revival and renewal, you have three choices, lead, follow, or get out of the way. My prayer is that our church, community, county, state, country, world and I would experience genuine, Spirit filled, Holy Ghost sent, revival. How about you? Is it your desire to see God move this way? Do you desire the “bread of Life?” Are your prayers continually offered to God that He would move in the way that will most glorify Him so that it would be very evident to all that the Lord had visited His people?