

Transforming Daily
“... under your wing ...”
Ruth 3:5

Boaz knew exactly what Ruth meant when she came to visit him and asked for coverage under his wing. This was not crass, but cultural. The gesture of uncovering his feet was not immoral, but a form of humility and honor. Immediately, Boaz understood what was being asked of him and what responsibility he was being asked to take on. Boaz, too, was humbled as indicated by his remarks that a young woman of Ruth's age could have any younger man she wanted, but choosing him revealed her heart of love, submission, and humility.

It is becoming less common for younger folks to want to sit under the teaching of those more experienced than they are and to listen to good, sound counsel and advice. Impatience and the desire for immediate gratification and success have driven many away from the disciplines of listening, waiting, and following. Honoring elders is also a thing of the past. To be fair, part of that is due to the attitude of the elders toward the youth, but most of it is due to the emulation of society's role models by many of our youth. Some young people don't feel that they have anything to live for, and they feel that their life expectancy is less than 30 years of age. Hence the saying, "Live fast, die young, and leave a beautiful corpse." According to the Bible, that is foolishness and disrespectful on many levels.

Spiritually speaking, to be under God's wing is to willingly and submissively receive His provision and protection according to His will, work, way, and Word. Humility and submission are spiritual disciplines first subscribed to by thought, then by attitude, and ultimately demonstrated in action. The Holy Spirit is very involved in this action of coverage. Some scholars liken the act of being under a wing of a bird sitting on her nest of eggs, hatchlings, or young brood. She is willing to give her life to hide them from the enemy and protect them from adverse life threatening circumstances. God sent His Son for that very purpose, and the Son sent the Holy Spirit as evidence of a sealed deal as well as for direction in truth and righteousness for those who would humbly and submissively listen, wait, and follow.

Do you honor God's Word? Do you have a teachable spirit? Are you willing to wait on the Lord? Can you follow the direction of the Holy Spirit irrespective of the influence of anyone else? Have you asked God, "Allow me to abide under Your wing?"