**Scripture Readings**: Exodus 20 and Ruth 2

**Singing:** 275:1-4 – 70:1, 5 – 17:1-5 – 187:1-4 – 416:3, 5

**Ruth’s Trust in LORD**

I. The journey of her trust II. The nature of her trust III. The object of her trust

**I. The Journey of her trust in the LORD God**

A. Ruth started out her journey *trusting the gods of Moab* (1:4, 15)

 1. What did she look for in these idols?

 2. How does this compare to you and me?

B. Ruth’s crisis in life became her turning point (Ruth 1:5)

 1. There is large *unwritten story* that precedes 2:12b

a. Is Jehovah trustworthy and better than Moab’s gods? (Ruth 1:20-21)

 2. God led her to the victory of faith: Ruth 1:15-17

C. Question: *Does her picture describe me?*

 1. Stories will differ in all God’s children: *yet the end point is* ***trust***

 a. such trust is always *accompanied with a journey of grief*

 b. such trust also includes *a decisive turning away* from other gods

**II. The nature of her trust in the LORD God**

A. Ruth is trusting under the wings of Jehovah (Ruth 2:12b)

 1. She learned to ***place her trust***in Jehovah – covenant God!

 a. what is *to trust*?

 b. do we have *trust* like her?

 2. Did Ruth struggle to *place her trust* in the LORD God?

 a. she felt unworthy (2:10)

 b. she had a bad past (1:15)

 c. she had no rights on Jehovah (2:7)

B. How does this *trusting* reflect in our life?

 1. Is there *clinging – looking outside yourself – taking your refuge* to Lord?

**III. The object of her trust: *the wings of the LORD God of Israel***

A. The ‘wings of Jehovah’ is *picture of God’s grace – goodness – sheltering love*

B. Spiritually the *wings* picture the Person and Work of Jesus Christ

 1. His obedience in life and death is a perfect shelter for sinners

 2. His blood cleanseth from *all sin*

 3. His righteousness covers all *sinfulness*

C. Are we **exercised** with the *Person and work of the Lord Jesus?*

 1. The basis of attendance at the table of the Lord is not *emotions* but Jesus

 Christ whom I believe (trust – take refuge to – look unto)

 2. Examine whether *the LORD God* is the ground of your only hope?

 a. do we as quickly dismiss what Ruth dismissed (2:13)

b. do we echo Paul’s hunger: *Oh, to be found in Him, not having my own*

 *righteousness but His only!*

D. If you can’t deny such soul exercises with the greater Boaz, then hear Jesus’

 invitation in Boaz words: 2:14

 1. Hesitate not to *obey His direction*

 2. Stay not away because you have no *personal assurance of your salvation in*

 *Him*

When we take least notice of our good deeds ourselves,

God takes the most notice. (M. Henry)

Just as the sinner’s despair of any help from himself is the first prerequisite of a sound conversion,

so the loss of all confidence is himself is the first essential in the believer’s growth of grace. (A. Pink)

The right manner of growth is to grow less in one’s own eyes. (T. Watson)