



Awaiting the King Series: Part 2:
'No Little People, No Little Places', from book of Ruth
Mike Halpin ~ November 19, 2017

Intro: Francis Schaeffer's book, *No Little People*, 1974. "No Little People, No Little Places"

Nowhere more than in America are Christians caught in the twentieth-century syndrome of size. Size will show success. If I am consecrated, there will necessarily be large quantities of people, dollars, etc. This is not so. Not only does God not say that size and spiritual power go together, but He even reverses this (especially in the teaching of Jesus) and tells us to be deliberately careful not to choose a place too big for us. We all tend to emphasize big works and big places, but all such emphasis is of the flesh. To think in such terms is simply to hearken back to the old, unconverted, egoist, self-centered Me. This attitude, taken from the world, is more dangerous to the Christian than fleshly amusement or practice.

I. A Little Person & A Little Place—

Ruth 1:1–5

Ruth 1:15–19

Ruth 4:13–22

The little book of Ruth tells the big story of God using a little person in a little place to bring in His chosen King.

II. A Little Person & A Little Place, II—

About a thousand years after the story of Ruth, we see another story that highlights little people in little places bringing about God's eternal purposes.

Nazareth and Galilee:

Ruth and Mary:

Boaz and Joseph:

Loyal love and Redemption:

Bethlehem—The City of Bread:

Times of oppression:

Corrupted Priesthood:

If God can use the little people and little places in His grand plans then He can use people like us in His work in our place.

III. Loyal Love & Redemption—

Do we live lives of loyal love toward God and toward others? _____

Outside our immediate family, who knows we're committed to them? _____

Who knows they can count on our loving support? _____

Do we take offense against others easily? _____

Do we cover the sins of others when possible? _____

Are we intentionally, prayerfully part of connecting others w/ the God who saves? _____

With whom have we had a gospel centered conversation with in the last year? _____

Who are we praying for? _____

We're not Jesus; He is the source of all loyal love; He is the Savior and Redeemer of the World. But to know Him should mean to small degrees at least, that we become more like Him.

To be wholly committed to God in the place where God wants him— this is the creature glorified..... Those who think of themselves as little people in little places, if committed to Christ and living under His Lordship in the whole of life, may, by God's grace, change the flow of our generation.

Francis Schaeffer