

The Threshingfloor
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Threshing in Bible times was the harvest-time activity by which the grain was removed from the husk and the tares (or false grain) was separated from the wheat. The threshing floor was the place where this activity took place and it was an important place for the people of Bible times. The threshing floor was flat and hardened by the passing of oxen over the sheaves, sometimes pulling a sled designed to separate the grain from the husks. After the threshing process, the stalks and grain were thrown up into the air so that the wind might blow the unwanted chaff away and leave the valuable kernels. This was known as winnowing. The threshing floors were important places and were often used as landmarks.

MOURNING BECOMES YOUR MESSAGE

Genesis 50:10 - "And they came to the threshing floor of Atad, which is beyond (west of) the Jordan, and there they mourned with a great lamentation and extreme demonstrations of sorrow; and made a mourning for his father seven days."

Psalms 30:5 - For His anger is but for a moment, but His favor is for a lifetime or in His favor is life. Weeping may endure for a night, but Joy comes in the morning.

II Corinthians 4:17 - For our light, momentary affliction (this slight distress of the passing hour) is ever more and more abundantly preparing and producing and achieving for us an everlasting weight of glory (beyond measure, excessively surpassing all comparisons and all calculations, a vast and transcendent glory and blessedness never to cease!).

PAIN GIVES RISE TO PRAISE

Jeremiah 51:33 - For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; The daughter of Babylon [is] like a threshingfloor, [it is] time to thresh her: yet a little while, and the time of her harvest shall come.

There is a time of threshing... And it is not pleasant!

Purification is never pleasant!

Psalms 51:10 - Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right, preserving, and steadfast spirit within me.

SACRIFICE BRINGS SUCCESS

II Samuel 24:19-25 - "So David went up according to Gad's word, as the Lord commanded. Araunah looked and saw the king and his servants coming toward him; and he went out and bowed himself before the king with his face to the ground. Araunah said, Why has my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshing floor from you, to build there an altar to the Lord, that the plague may be stayed from the people. And Araunah said to David, Let my lord the king take and offer up what seems good to him. Behold, here are the oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing instruments and the yokes of the oxen for wood. All this O King, Araunah gives to the king, The Lord your God accept you. But King David said to Araunah, NO, BUT I WILL BUY IT OF YOU FOR A PRICE. I WILL NOT OFFER BURNT OFFERINGS TO THE

LORD MY GOD OF THAT WHICH COST ME NOTHING. So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for 50 shekels of silver. David built there an altar to the Lord and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the Lord heeded the prayers for the land, and Israel's plague was stayed.

People try to get success without sacrifice, and it will not happen!

It cost to conquer!!!

- it will cost time
- it will cost talent
- it will cost treasure

RUIN BRINGS REDEMPTION AND RESTORATION

Ruth 3:2-4 - And now is not Boaz, with whose maidens you were, our relative? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Wash and anoint yourself therefore, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. But when he lies down, notice the place where he lies; then go and uncover his feet and lie down. And he will tell you what to do.

Ruth had lost it all. Her husband was dead. She had lost everything! Yet..... She picked herself up, washed herself, put on her best clothes and headed down to the threshing floor!

Sometimes you have to pick yourself up... Wash yourself.... Put on our best.... and make steps to move forward! I know what happened to you was bad... but until you're ready to let go of that... you will never move forward.

Ruth 3:14 - And she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another; for he said, Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor.

When we get to the threshing floor.... We usually tell EVERYBODY!

Ruth 3:15 - Also he said, Bring the mantle you are wearing and hold it. So Ruth held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and laid it on Her, and she went into the town. And when she came home, her mother-in-law said, How have you fared, my daughter? And Ruth told her all that the man had done for her. And she said, He gave me these six measures of barley, for he said to me, Do not go empty-handed to your mother-in-law. Then said she, Sit still, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out; for the man will not rest until he finishes the matter today.

There is blessing at the Threshing floor. WE have a kinsman redeemer who cares for us greatly. He sees the mess that we are in... And when we are willing to come to him at the threshing floor. The place of sifting, and we are willing to lay at his feet and do what he asks.... Then blessing will come.

Sometimes we just have to sit still while God works!

Ruth 4:15 - And may he be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher and supporter in your old age...