

journey to a people unknown to her. Boaz places the seal of his approbation upon so much love and faith, then he promised her a recompense; "Jehovah recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of Jehovah the God of Israel under whose wings thou art come to trust." Recompense is not the end, but the encouragement of faith.

Ruth responds as did Moses in Ex. xxxiii. 13; the praise of Boaz does not exalt her; she realizes that all is of grace, and desires to find more grace. She recognizes his authority over her and declares herself his unworthy servant. Then he honours her in inviting her to his feast. Ruth at the table of Boaz! What favour for the poor stranger! "She did eat, and was sufficed, and left" (of the food). Is it not as though we were present at the multiplying of the loaves by Jesus?

The *communion* which Ruth has just been enjoying at the table of Boaz does not make her forget her task. On the contrary she draws from it fresh strength and renewed activity, with more abundant and blessed results than before. Our work, to be effective, should flow from what we have received for ourselves, and the results will be so much the more rich, in proportion as we have personally found our own joy in the presence of the Lord.

The heart which has been nourished and had its thirst satisfied by Christ is never selfish. Is it not said, "Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living