

Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

Ruth 1:14

“And they lifted up their voice, and wept again; and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.” Ruth 1:14

Lip service is rampant in the Church. “But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” (James 1:22). Many proclaim their own faithfulness but when the examination comes they fail the test. “Help, Lord; for the godly man ceases; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak vanity everyone with his neighbor; with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.” (Psalm 12:1-2)

There came a time in the ministry of Jesus that the multitudes that followed Him were challenged to not only enjoy the miracles that followed Him, but to listen to His words and come to a decision. And many like Orpah, turned away from Him. “Even His disciples said, “This is very hard to understand. How can anyone accept it? ... At this point many of His disciples turned away and deserted Him.” (John 6:60, 66).

We are faced daily with opportunities to make decisions to continue to follow Jesus or to turn back. Will we be an Orpah, kissing Naomi and returning to her idols and heathen lifestyle, or will we be like Ruth, who clung to Naomi, and in so doing received a new life and new way of living? Then Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.” (John 6:68-69)

Is your Christian service in words only or are you clinging to Jesus Christ?