

Absolute Care of the Omnipotent and Omnipresent God Almighty: A Comparative Study from the Women Centered Books of the Bible

Dr. A. Minnal Carolin

Assistant Professor, SRMIST

Abstract

The book of Esther and Ruth are two incredible books written based on the lives of two women who lived at different time periods, hailed from different cultures, with a completely different genres. Though vast is the difference there are certain impeccable similarities and not a wonder they revolve around the magnificent savior and awesome Creator. This paper will gist out the phenomenal care showered on two outstanding women characters of the Bible on the whole these two books rely on making those two books significantly heroine-centered books. The prevailing similarities under the context of the care of God Almighty diminish the differences under all the banners.

Keywords: *Esther, Ruth, care, anxieties, sovereign,*

“Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you – 1 Peter 5:7”
Worries, anxieties, difficulties, trials, and temptations have never been excluded from anyone of any era who lived, lives, and will be living and another absolute truth is no one ever wishes to have any one of those listed above. There is a continuous strife that goes around the clock in finding out a way that serves as an escape from these untoward moments. The category of ways to flee from annoying moments certainly varies from person to person. Some use finance as a great weapon whereas quite a few use influential people to seek after. The other sources are plotting cunning plots to deceive others and it goes on and on. So they run after that which seems convenient to them or has convinced them that the source that they have clung to will certainly bring them to the other shore. Yes, sometimes it does and at many times it doesn't. Forget about when it does. But what exactly happens when it doesn't? The anxiety continues, the worry persists, and an uncared feeling escalates.. Isn't it true?

மலர்: 11

சிறப்பிதழ்: 2

மாதம்: ஜூலை

வருடம்: 2023

P-ISSN: 2321-788X

E-ISSN: 2582-0397

DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.34293/sijash.v11iS2i2-July.6500>

Yes. It Is.. This paper comes out with an answer comparing the lives of two brilliant women on whom two books of the Bible are focused. Agreeing or disagreeing Bible is a predominantly male-centered book but these two women's faith could not resist the holy spirit of the Living God through whom the scripture has been inspired as according to 2 Timothy 3:16,17

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

To prohibit these two women-centred books from being added to the Holy Scripture. What made them great? What is predominant in them? How the care of such an Awesome Omnipotent and Omniscient God be portrayed through their lives?

A very general introduction to character Ruth is a Moabite. Moabites are those who are not in the good books of the Lord. Moab was born through an incestuous relationship between a father and daughter which we read about in Genesis 19:36-37. They were idolatrous people which again we come across in Numbers 25:1-3. History says that they were the ones who lead Israelites astray as recorded in Deuteronomy 7:3-4. The civil engineer of the Bible Mr Nehemiah did not even welcome them inside after the wall was rebuilt as it is mentioned in the Book of Nehemiah 13:1-3. It is indeed apparent that there is not even a single thing to be appreciated about this clan called as Moab. And the awe of this book is the sovereign God of Israel cared for her as she had come under His shadow. As the Holy Scripture says in Psalm 91: 1

"Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty." She chose to abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Knowing that there is completely a great difference between the gods of her place and the God of Israel whom her mother-in-law was worshipping she clung on to Him with a greater faith and a strong assurance. And her faith didn't go in vain according to the words of Lord Jesus Christ as the gospel writer of John records as

"I will not reject anyone who comes to me – John 6:37"

Ruth went in faith to the Sovereign Caring God and there she receives that extraordinary care in His bosom. The Journey after trusting Him becomes so sweet that she was able to forget her mother's house and household, all the tragedies that she has faced in her life, and even the worst experience of being a widow and also barren. She gets ready for another great move in our life. And it's all because she takes a firm decision that the Lord God of Naomi is her God as well.

In the same way, Esther queen of Persia, was born as Hadassah, a Hebrew girl who also receives the same care from the sovereign God of Israel when she takes a firm decision to rely only on the God who introduced as I am the I am to her forefather Moses to stop the plan of genocide that has been thwarted on her people. She neither chose to send a message to the king through her loyal attendees nor through those of the king. Rather she decides to fast and pray for three nights and days without food or drink. She also gathers her maidens to also do so the same and the whole of Israelites to weep along with her to the Maker of Heavens and

the Earth. Then she proceeds with faith in a foreign land as a single point of contact representing her people before the queen.

The Lord who cared for gentile Ruth also cared for the Hebrew girl Hadassah who was sailing on the same boat though she being a queen she was helpless to the level that she couldn't approach the king who is her own lawful husband. She is carrying the agony in her heart over the law that has been issued regarding the annihilation of her own people. She wrestles with the Lord for a miracle and born. In the same receives favour from the sight of the king. Overruling the law she goes and presents herself before the king and guess what she receives grace. Ruth receives grace in the sight of Boaz who allowed her to glean from his fields, and Esther receives grace in the sight of the King who showed his sceptre and granting her life and favour. Who else can be the reason for this favour it's for sure that the Almighty sovereign God cared for both of them.

But by the grace of God, I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. – 1 Corinthians 15:10

Ruth made sure that she was obedient to her mother-in-law and Esther was obedient to her cousin Mordecai. They both abided by the instructions given to them and observed to do them very carefully.

“You are my friends if you do what I command you – John 15:14.”

The outcome of their obedience that they received from the Lord who cares is that Ruth was married to Boaz and she begot Obed and laid him in the lap of Naomi, her mother-in-law and made her to rejoice over the birth of her grandson, who is the grandfather of King David in whose genealogy Lord Jesus Christ is way the entire Jewish people are safe guarded and Mordecai receives higher office of responsibility in the Persian kingdom. Both Ruth and Esther remained under the hands of the Almighty God who exalts them in the due time.

“Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, so that in due time He may exalt you. Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.”

Conclusion

The omnipotent and Omniscient God cares for every human being and not only for them He cares for the land, He cares for animals, He cares for His people for He is compassionate and merciful. At the right time He exalts His people who are Humbling under His mighty hands. Just like He cared for Ruth, the Moabite and Hadassah alias Esther, a Jewish girl He is waiting to care for all of us.