

Ruth 4:1-22 “Redemption”

Ch.1 Decisions – Elimelech, Naomi – Ruth

Ch.2 Providence and Blessing- Ruth just so happens to end up in Boaz field – Boaz takes a liking to her – compassion – blesses her –

A) We realize – it wasn’t chance – but Providence – God working in the lives of ordinary pp to carry out his bigger plan.

B) **Ch.3 Proposal**- Ruth proposes to Boaz – He is happy to do it!

C) However there is a closer Kinsman – Criteria for being a Kinsman Redeemer

- 1) Able – Check
- 2) Willing – Check – He is more than willing!
- 3) Nearest Relative – there is another

So Boaz as says – There is a kinsman who is nearer

Aa) And our hearts want to say- Forget about the rules –

A) You love her – she obviously has a thing for you – **marry her for crying out loud!**

B) But Boaz is a godly man of character – Because of that he is determined to do **the right thing.**

1) He is not going to be led by his emotions or his glands

C) He is going to honor God in all things!

1) He is going to make sure if this relationship is meant to be that it starts off on the right foot.

So Boaz tells Ruth in Ch.3 – let me go and talk to this other fellow and if he is unwilling to play the role of the kinsman redeemer – I will be happy to do it!

A) Sends a gift home to Naomi – She says – He has the hots for you – You got him on the hook!

B) He is not going to rest until he gets this done. –

C) **BOAZ IS A CAN DO KIND OF GUY!**

Ch.4 is about Redemption

A) The terms buy, redeem, redemption are used over 15 times in this chapter

B) **Boaz is a picture of Jesus** – Redeem something, to pay the price in order to ultimately set it free.

V.1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there; and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz had spoken came by. So Boaz said, "Come aside, friend, sit down here." So he came aside and sat down.

Gates- Town center – City hall – Elders sat – court was held, - Battle strategy was formulated –

A) The meaning behind the words of Jesus – The gates of hell will not prevail.

B) V.1 Now Boaz is in the gates – Come aside friend – KJV “Ho, such a one! turn aside, sit down here.”

C) Why is his name not mentioned – Why does the HS keep him anonymous –

D) I think the most logical answer is – it was the Lord’s desire not to embarrass this man and his family.

1) So he leaves him obscure

2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.

This shows the kind of man Boaz is and the amount of influence he was in the city –

3 Then he said to the close relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, sold the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech. 4 And I thought to inform you, saying, ‘Buy it back in the presence of the inhabitants and the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am next after you.’"

He has RIGHT OF 1ST REFUSAL- that is the idea.

V.5 And he said “I will redeem it.”

A) This is emphatic in the Hebrew – I will redeem it!

B) He is no doubt thinking – Naomi is old, past child bearing age, this is a no brainer –

1) I buy the field – she dies – my assets are enlarged – this is a good business decision.

C) So he says – I will redeem it – and all of the Romantics in the room – *gasp*

1) We have been rooting for Boaz and Ruth to get together –*since she wandered into his field in ch. 2*

D) *We watched him take a liking to her!* – Wedding bells have been playing in our ears – now this is going to ruin it.

1) If we were in the crowd listening to this exchange – we might have gasped at hearing this man say –“I will redeem it

E) To which – Boaz might have looked at us and whispered chill – relax

1) I have a back up plan! -

5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also buy it from Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance." {That was smooth – Boaz}

6 And the close relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I ruin my own inheritance. You redeem my right of redemption for yourself, for I cannot redeem it."

Now this guy says I can't do this – **Bad deal** – pay for the parcel, produce a child with Ruth and raise him up – and when he is older – I give it to him. – **I get nothing in return-**

A) I don't like that deal- He says **I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I ruin my own inheritance**

B) Now although none of us here in the room want this guy to marry Ruth – **we can't just ignore what he is doing here.**

C) This is the problem with this man – **He is thinking only of Business! He is not thinking of posterity** –

1) He is not seeing the bigger picture.

C) The whole process of the Levirate law and the kinsman redeemer was set up by God to preserve the nation of Israel. –

1) Preserve individual families in the nation.

D) This guy has a chance to play a part in the bigger plan of God – but He is unwilling.

And believers in the Church today often make this same mistake

A) People who fail to see the part that they can play in the bigger picture of the kingdom of God.

B) One of the ways that God allows us to invest in his Kingdom is through **our tithes and offerings.**

Cc) In fact concerning our resources God says – all of it is mine –

1) I am going to allow you to keep 90% do what you want.

C) I want you to take 10% and invest back in my kingdom. –

1) Play a part in the bigger picture of my plan of redemption.

Problem is very few take God up on that offer. – Most churches only 9% of the pp who regularly attend tithe.

A) So many don't – because like this man they are only focused on the here and now – not the big picture.

B) Like this man they think – I can't invest in that because it will **ruin my own budget** – my own inheritance – my own plans and desires.

1) The church today is filled with pp living with a consumer mentality – what is in it for me.

C) Interesting – Tithing is the one thing –where God says Mal 3:10 **test me** – and see if I don't open up the windows of heaven with blessing.

I am not saying any of this to make anyone here feel bad!

A) But more so because I want you to experience the joy of having all God has for you.

B) Knowing by experience and scripture – that a huge Part of that Joy comes from being invested in the kingdom of God.

C) This guy thought if I do this I am not going to get anything out of this He **was so wrong** –

1) It was his chance to participate in the overall bigger plan of God

This guy was interested in the field – but not the bride.

A) Complete opposite of where the Lord wants our focus to be.

B) Interesting – Boaz did not care about the field – he just wanted **Ruth the bride.**

This is another way that Boaz is a picture of Jesus

A) Jesus told a parable about a man who was walking through a field and found a treasure – Matt 13:44

Aa) He went and sold everything he had to **purchase the field in order to get the treasure.**

B) **That is how Jesus sees us** - the world is the field – we are the treasure that is in the field –

1) Jesus is not so much interested in the field as He is the **treasure that is in the field.**

C) He came to redeem the field in order to get the treasure – the Bride {The **field is the stage for bride** – **That is one of the things that Satan failed to realize – He tempted Jesus by saying – bow down I will give you all the kingdoms of the world.**

A) The field was not a real temptation – like it will be for the Antichrist and like it is for so many today.

B) Charlemagne – **“what will a profit a man to gain the whole world and to lose his soul.”**

C) Jesus wasn't interested in the kingdoms – **all going to burn** – what he wanted – what He came to redeem was the bride – the treasure in the field.

D) **The world is temporary** – all going to burn – You and I are eternal

1) You ignore Christ – go on forever without him -

Boaz is not interested in the field he just wants the Bride – to him Ruth is a crown - Prov 12:4 A wife of noble character is her husband's crown, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones.

A) She is a crown and not a cancer –

B) But ladies note: She didn't start off as a crown- she started as a Moabite worshipping the god Chemosh, **probably sexually active** from a bad family in a horrible town –

C) Her husband died and she was barren – new town – begging – picking up aluminum cans

D) Through the unfolding drama of this book, Ruth “the Moabitess” has gone from being a foreigner (2:10), to being lower than a migrant worker (2:13), to being a “lady-in-waiting” (3:9), to being a “wife” (4:13).”

7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging, to confirm anything: one man took off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was a confirmation in Israel.

“The meaning of the sandal originally signified sovereignty over property rights—one would be able to “walk” one's property (Ps. 60:8; Deut. 1:36; Josh. 1:3).”

“The taking off of the sandal signified a method of legalizing transactions

D) Interesting there was a certain procedure – for the person who refused to play the part of the Kinsman redeemer –

1) Deut. 25 – The rejected widow could spit in his face – they would take his shoe and he would be known as the man with the lose shoe.

8 Therefore the close relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." So he took off his sandal.

A) Some little girl reading this said – that would be a **fashion disaster** – all these pp running around with mismatched sandals

B) I am glad times have changed – hand shake – another portion – grab the guys thigh. Gen 24

1) In those days – it was their legal contract

C) Side note: It is good to have a legal contract – there can always be something that goes wrong

9 And Boaz said to the elders and all the people, {a crowd has formed – “let’s see if this guy is going to get spit in the face.”}

"You are witnesses this day that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, from the hand of Naomi. 10 Moreover, Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, I have acquired as my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brethren and from his position at the gate. You are witnesses this day."

A) Boaz – **said you are all witnesses** – First born son of Boaz and Ruth would belong to Mahlon

B) Boaz is willing to invest in the bigger plan of God – preserve this family

1) To get the bride – He has no idea – what God has in store for this child

C) Jesus our Kinsman Redeemer – left the glory of heaven – became one of us – **Nearest Kinsman** – to the point – becoming a baby.

Conceived of the Holy Spirit!

A) He spends nine months in the belly of Mary – taking on human flesh.

B) He didn't just appear as a 30 year old man on the scene out of no where

C) **No he is a part of this lineage** – he is a part of this story- he is becoming a man in every way as we are – except – he is without sin.

The first Adam was created perfect – He sinned – he rebelled – Sin entered the human race!

A) Every single person born after Adam was born ungodly – think of it this way.

B) Godly is perfect – Right – righteous – to be ungodly is to be imperfect.

1) That is every single one of us – it only takes a matter of time before our imperfections are made manifest.

C) We inherited that from Adam.

Jesus did not have Adam's seed – He was born of the Holy Spirit. –

A) Fully God but also fully man – that is what made Him **ABLE** to redeem us.

B) The only one who could pay the price for our sins – take our punishment was one who had NOT SINNED!

1) One who didn't owe a debt himself

C) Charles **Spurgeon** “**He paid a debt that he didn't owe because we owed a debt that we couldn't pay.**”

In the same way that Boaz was not going to rest until he had Ruth for his bride –

A) We read that Jesus set his face like flint – like stone – headed toward Jerusalem – to purchase the Bride

B) Even though that meant – Brutally beaten – crucified – death – the sin of the world – separated –

1) Did all of that to make you and I – those who would believe – His Bride.

C) We can't do anything to remove the stain of sin that sits upon the human race –

1) Jesus came – Cross – died – shed blood – cleanse – from sin / shame

11 And all the people who were at the gate, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. The Lord make the woman who is coming to your house like Rachel and Leah, the two who built the house of Israel; {12 sons

between the two of them} and may you prosper in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem. {they have no idea they are speaking prophetically}

12 May your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring which the Lord will give you from this young woman."

A) Tamar is an interesting story- Genesis 38 Judah had a son married to Tamar – he died – according to the Levirate law – Judah next son had to marry Tamar – but he also died

B) **By this time – Judah is thinking – this gal is the Black widow or something** – she is bad news – actually the Lord killed his sons because they were wicked

C) So He refuses his youngest son – so Tamar dresses up as a prostitute and Judah sleeps with her and she bore a son – Perez

D) He ends up being the great g,g,g grand father to Boaz – **God honors this union** -

1) Read your Bibles interesting – Jason get there in a few weeks

C) May your offspring be like the house of Perez – God honored that household.

13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife; and when he went in to her, the Lord gave her

conception, and she bore a son. Note that: The Lord gave her conception –

She was married to Mahlon for a number of years and didn't conceive – now the Lord opened up her womb –His plan -

14 Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel! {They said to Naomi – Ruth pushed – exhausted – they understood – this child was going to carry on the family name.}

Obed was a blessing to Boaz and Ruth.

A) This was no ordinary baby, for it was God's special gift to Boaz and Ruth;

Obed would bring blessing to Bethlehem.

A) The child would bring fame to both the family name and the name of his native town.

B) Elimelech's name almost disappeared from Israel, but Obed would make that name famous and bring glory to Bethlehem.

Obed was also a blessing to Naomi.

His grandmother informally "adopted" him as her own son and became his foster mother.

15 And may he be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law,

who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has borne him." 16 Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her bosom, and became a nurse to him.

This child was going to nourish her in her old age. –

A) I've heard that is what grand kids do –

B) Wise –called grand – because it is grand when they come and grand when they leave. –

B) This little boy was going to light up Naomi's world.

1) "Naomi took the child to her bosom," although not as a wet-nurse) and became his "nanny" who, alongside his parents, helped raise the boy.

17 Also the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, "There is a son born to Naomi." And they called his name Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Obed would bring blessing to Israel.

Obed was the grandfather of King David, one of Israel's greatest rulers.

Obed would bring blessing to the whole world.

A) From this line would come – The messiah – Jesus – born 1200 years later in this obscure little village –

B) Bethlehem = House of Bread

C) Born the one who declared I am the bread of life

Hungry – come to me

18 Now this is the genealogy of Perez: Perez begot Hezron; 19 Hezron begot Ram, and Ram begot Amminadab; 20 Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon; 21 Salmon begot Boaz, and Boaz begot Obed; 22 Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David.

A) Now this is the genealogy of Jesus – his family tree

B) You think you have a weird family tree.

C) Perez – who is the offspring of Judah and his daughter in law Tamar who tricked him – pretending to be a prostitute

1) Imagine that conversation at family reunions

Then he mentions Salmon – Salmon was married to Rahab the prostitute – who hid the spies at Jericho.

A) So Rahab was Boaz's mother – which maybe is one of the reasons Boaz took an interest in Ruth

B) **Ruth was a Moabite – NOT A VIRGIN –**

1) **GOD OF THE 2ND CHANCE**

C) **All of this is heading to Jesus –**

1) Tamar – pretended to be a prostitute to produce a child with her father in law

D) Beauty for ashes - The oil of joy for mourning,

Rahab who was a converted Prostitute –

A) Ruth a promiscuous idol worshipping – widow

**B) Throw in Bathsheba - - quite a list of Characters
in our Lords family tree**

**His heritage wasn't squeaky clean – God did that on
Purpose because that is the bride**

STORY OF REDEMPTION -

The Church – testimonies – My wife – dysfunctional

Jason

Elder

**Jesus takes that which is broken and restores it –
makes it better –**

Pours his life into it –