

THE BOOK OF RUTH

ADVENT
WORSHIP
SERIES



From Hopeless Withoutness to Eternal Withness

1:3 But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died...and both Mahlon and Chilion died...

1:16 Ruth: "For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried."



⁷ She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves after the reapers.'

^{2:3} ...and (Ruth) *happened* to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech (Naomi's family). ⁴ And *behold*, Boaz came from Bethlehem.



3:3 Wash therefore and anoint yourself...Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do.”

3:9b “I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer.”



Jesus With Us

Humble

Bold

Worthy

Matthew 2:1-2

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

3:13 Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the LORD lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning.”

18 She replied, “Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today.”

However...

The Law and a nameless cousin might get in the way of true love...

4:1 Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, the redeemer, of whom Boaz had spoken, came by. So Boaz said, "Turn aside, friend; sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down. ² And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down. ³ Then he said to the redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our relative Elimelech. ⁴ So I thought I would tell you of it and say, 'Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.' If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you." And he said, "I will redeem it."

⁵ Then Boaz said, “The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance.” ⁶ Then the redeemer said, “I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.”

⁷ Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, the one drew off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was the manner of attesting in Israel. ⁸ So when the redeemer said to Boaz, “Buy it for yourself,” he drew off his sandal. ⁹ Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon. ¹⁰ Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day.”

¹¹ Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, “We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem, ¹² and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring that the LORD will give you by this young woman.”

3:1 Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, should I not **seek rest for you**, that it may be well with you?”

Ruth: A young, broke, widowed woman refugee from an enemy country

Christmas Eve at 10pm is one of the most stressful moments of the year.

Luke 1:30 And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.”

And (Boaz) said, "I will redeem it."

"Kinsman Redeemer"

He had to be a close relative and doing it came at great expense and selflessness because what he bought would end up going to perpetuate the dead husband's name and family, not his own.

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From, By and For**

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The different “famines” that owned Ruth

Rest-less-ness

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Hopelessness

There was no reason to see any change on the horizon. She was stuck.

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Legally

“he drew off his sandal”

He publically and legally “redeemed” (married) Ruth

Sacrificially

Boaz took over Ruth and Naomi’s “debts” and wrote them into his life.



Philips Galle – “Boaz and the elders” - 1579

^{11b} May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel.

A Family

She was no longer alone. Her and Naomi were brought into a “worthy” “house” to be cared for and cherished.

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As the town elders prayed, she was also set on God’s beautiful path that would lead to the birth of Jesus.

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Love

A “worthy” (valiant) Boaz sacrificed his resources and heart for her.

Galatians 4:4

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Rest-less-ness Slaves	Alone-ness Orphans	Hopelessness Under the Law
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A Family “adoption”	A Name “Heir”	Love “Abba, Father”
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Romans 5:9

Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God.

Legally “justified”	Sacrificially “Wrath”
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Kinsman Redeemer

**This is why Jesus came.
Our Kinsman Redeemer
closer than any other.**

Luke 1:30 And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.
³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.
³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

^{11b} May you **act worthily** in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem, ¹² and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring that the LORD will give you by this young woman.”

You have been
made “worthy” –
valiant, strong.

We are called and
empowered to live out
of our True Identity

