

Introduction:

- Ruth 4:14-17
- Chapter 1 was a sad chapter. We meet Naomi, and Ruth our main characters. Naomi's husband has died. Her two sons have died. Famine comes to Moab and Ruth and Naomi leave for Bethlehem. Naomi, whose name means pleasant or lovely, calls herself bitter.
- Chapter 2 Naomi discovers a relative. Ruth takes the initiative go glean in the fields grain that was spilled to ground. She finds favor in Boaz he speaks kindly (hesed) of her.
- Chapter 3 Naomi has a plan and Ruth sleeps at the feet of Boaz and calls him a redeemer. Boaz moves to become their redeemer (buys property and to marry Ruth)

I. Boaz The Redeemer

- A. Boaz moves with determination to redeem Naomi's property and to Marry Ruth. *"... the man will not rest but settle the matter today."* (3:18)
1. There is a swiftness, focus and urgency that we find in word of God regarding redeemers. Jesus 'set his face toward Jerusalem.' 'Who for the joy set before Him endured the cross scorning its shame.' We need to stir up that 'swiftness' in us. Living with a mission to serve that require action.
 2. Boaz goes and sits at the gate. Why that was important? It was where the elders sat and judged or governed. Boaz was taking Naomi's case to the elders. He was handling it in a righteous way of integrity (the redemption of Naomi's property.)
- B. There was one redeemer (also a relative that was before Boaz) that had right to purchase the land.
1. This man says he will purchase the property from Naomi.
 2. Boaz reminds him that he must also marry Ruth the deceased's wife. To which he declines...no deal. So he walks away. This set up Boaz to buy the property and to take Ruth as his wife. The elders are now his witnesses to his purchase of the property and marry Ruth.
 3. Boaz, like Jesus, paid the price to purchase our salvation/redemption to take to Himself ourselves, as His bride. He redeemed what belonged to us (health, prosperity, life) and He redeemed us by His own blood. There is only one who can redeem us...Jesus!
- C. *"So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the Lord gave her conception, and she bore a son."* (Ruth 4:13, ESV). And this is the last we hear of Ruth! Now it is all about Naomi and King David. Story starts with Naomi, ends with Naomi and David.

II. Where Is This Going?

- A. Remember, at this point, Ruth is no longer mentioned in the Book of Ruth.

1. So the focal point has changed. What is going on?
 2. If Ruth could not have any children with her first husband will she be able to have children now? Yes! The story of setbacks is starting to have a happy ending!
 3. *"The Lord gave her conception."* Sounds like Mary (a little bit). Point is: God was at work behind the scenes carrying out His plans. (We will connect this to David before we finish tonight.)
 - a) Ruth gets a son!
 - b) Ruth get 'full wages' of her (hesed) to Naomi. God is a rewarder for those who love well!
- B. At this birth it is not Ruth who is mentioned, but Naomi. *"Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel!"* (Ruth 4:14, ESV)
1. Naomi gets a redeemer! Boaz, then Obed but even more, in years to come David and later Jesus! David is renowned in Israel and Jesus throughout the whole earth.
 2. Yahweh becomes Naomi's provider of a son! God is on the move behind the scenes!
 3. Naomi's personal tragedy (loss of husband, loss of sons, famine, etc.) Now turns to her greatest triumph!
 4. *"In our darkest times we tend to not see things clearly, and we need people around us who will help us see more clearly. This book is written to help you manage your bleak seasons."* John Piper.
 5. Ruth 4:14 the women declare something very profound: "Yahweh has provided! He alone has done this!" This is the only time in scripture where redeemer is not applied to an adult but to a child.
- C. The women declare that his name may become great in all Israel.
1. The power of our words!
 2. They were prophesying Ruth 4:17b *"They named him Obed he was the father of Jesse, the father of David."*

III. The Great Turn Around!

- A. Obed is born to Ruth and Boaz.
1. But the story picks up with baby Obed being laid on the breast of Naomi!
 2. He, Obed, is her redeemer! He will restore and nourish Naomi in her old age. What she lost in Chapter 1 is restored in Chapter 4. God is a restorer! We must always believe that!
 3. Obed's name means one who works, serves. It also means one who worships. Hmm...David's grandfather was a worshipper!
- B. Again, this book is written in order to help us know that in our most darkest days, God

is at work. This is why chapter four ends with Naomi.

1. It is Naomi who has the honor of partnering with God to end this book with David.
 2. David is the last word of verse 17 and the last word of the Book of Ruth.
- C. A real turn around is this:
1. The story is written a couple of hundred years after judges.
 2. The story takes place in the time of judges.
 3. David is at the end of the story.
 4. What is interesting is that David is the famous longed for King. Though that is never mentioned in the bok. Ruth is written when Israel has a King but David first appears when it was a sin to have a King. What a turn around! *"This verse (17b) is, of course, a clue to the book's purpose: to show that the reign of David resulted from neither his shrewd politics nor his clever tactics but from the divine preservation of his worthy family line. Therefore, Israel was to accept David's kingship as the gift of divine guidance."* Hubbard, R. L. (1988). [The Book of Ruth](#) (p. 278). Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.
 5. God is shouting through history the name of His Son, Jesus! King of Kings.
 - a) He is a redemptive God.
 - b) He is a God who restores.

Conclusion:

- Ruth exists to give us hope that God is powerfully at work in the dark times of our lives.
- It exists to give us hope that God is at work.
- Therefore, don't quit!