

The Kinsman Redeemer (a look at the Book of Ruth):
Revelation 5:1-7 - Easter 2024

Passage: Revelation 5:1-7 & Ruth 4

Title: The Romance of Redemption

Summary: We all have experienced the empty promises of the world and others. God gives us a beautiful "Empty Promise", and that is an empty cross and an empty grave, with the Promise to us..... Paid in Full! We all have a debt we owe for our sin, and it is a debt we cannot pay.... But God paid off our debt upon the cross. Join us for a special Easter Message.

Revelation 5:1-7 (NKJV) ¹ And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. ² Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" ³ And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. ⁴ So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. ⁵ But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." ⁶ And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷ Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne.

Recap Revelation 5 Study:

Adam forfeited the Title Deed to the earth away to Satan when he fell. Satan offered it to Jesus; and Jesus did not dispute that the devil had the title deed:

(Genesis 1:28 NKJV) *Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

Genesis 3:6-7 (NKJV) ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

(Matthew 4:8 NKJV) *Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.*

(Matthew 4:9 NKJV) *And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."*

(Matthew 4:10 NKJV) *Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'*"

To buy it back, you needed to follow the Law of God as prescribed; the person was called the Kinsman Redeemer, and had to meet the requirements to buy the land and the person out of their debt.

Leviticus 25:25 (NKJV) ²⁵ If one of your brethren becomes poor, and has sold some of his possession, and if his redeeming relative (kin) comes to redeem (goel) it, then he may redeem what his brother sold.

The Requirements of the Kinsman:

- Had to be Qualified (was a Relative)
- Had to be Able (to Pay the Price)
- Had to be Willing

Powerful Love Story – Showing God can Take Hopeless/Turn into Marvelous

But in these 85 verses is a powerful love story which shows how the Lord can take a hopeless situation and turn it into something marvelous. This is a book which ministers a message of hope to any whom feel hopeless, helpless, or hurting. Today if you are hopeless, helpless, hurting – know that God has a love story for you.

Eloquent – Ben Franklin

This book is also well known as an eloquent writing, even in secular circles; when Ben Franklin was Ambassador to France he spoke to a group of Intellectuals who continually scoffed at his belief in the Bible. Ben Franklin knowing that they were unfamiliar with the Book they mocked, He said I have an intriguing love story I would like to read to you tonight, I think you will find it interesting. He then proceeded to read them a hand-written copy of the book of Ruth. After he read the four short chapters his audience was ecstatic They said that greatest love story we ever heard, you must publish it at once. Franklin answered it already has been, it's in the Bible. The scoffers were silenced.

God's Greatest Achievements

This Book is often titled – The Romance of Redemption. Let me ask you what was Gods greatest achievement? Most of immediately would think creation, as we survey the heavens, study the DNA molecule, we are staggered at this universe we live in.

But how do we measure how important something is to God? How about how much space is taken in the Bible to talk about something?

- Creation – a couple chapters in Genesis, a couple in Job, a couple Psalms, and a couple chapters in Isaiah, and we got most of it.
- Redemption - Now how much space in the Bible is given for the second major act – Redemption? All of Genesis, Exodus (Passover), Leviticus (the rules of priesthood), this Book of Ruth, the Psalms, the Books of the Prophets, the Gospels, the Epistles, the book of Revelation is the climax. —almost all of the Bible is on redemption.

Why? – Redemption Cost God His Only Begotten Son

Why? because Creation cost God 6 days - redemption cost God His only Son.

John 3:16 (NKJV)¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life

Chapter 3 Ends with No Sleep for Boaz / Would not Rest Until got the Girl / So Too Jesus and You

We come into chapter 4 on the heels of verse 18 of chapter 3. Boaz didn't sleep a wink that night, for all he had on his mind, was the girl, the Bride, the wife, the love, the beauty, the one who captured his heart and took his breath away. And remind you, Boaz is a picture of Christ, and Ruth is a picture of you, and God never rested until He had you, because you take his breath away, you captured His heart, and you moved Him so much so that He never rested until He had you, even meaning going to the cross to buy you, redeem you, purchase you out of slavery, to make you His wife, His bride, simply said..... His, all His!

Ruth 3:18 (NKJV)¹⁸ Then she said, "Sit still, my daughter, until you know how the matter will turn out; for the man will not rest until he has concluded the matter this day."

Boaz Waits at Gate for the Closer Relative (4:1)

Ruth 4:1 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.

Here is the Nearer Kin

Here we see the kinsman that Boaz had mentioned back in chapter 3.

City Gates

The city gate is where all the business transactions took place in those days. What we would consider “Court House” today. Traveling businessmen would do their business at the gate; they would make their contacts at the gate. If there was a matter within the city that needed to be dealt with, you meet the elders of the city at the gate and deal with it. Boaz sat at the gate therefore he must have had authority and standing in the community, he was a senior guy in the city.

Boaz Gathers 10 Elders of the City (4:2)

Ruth 4:2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.

Biblical Typology / 10 = Witness / Picture of the Law

So here is the prophetic picture, the biblical typology, the story within the story, about God redeeming you. 10 is the number of witness in Biblical typology. We arrive at these meaning of the numbers by how they are used consistently in the Bible. 7 days for creation, seven equals complete (not perfection), six equals man for he is not complete, 8 is new beginnings (as Sunday starts a new day of the week). The 10 elders of the city are an illustration of who our near kinsman is, It's the law, the law came first before Jesus. For us the 10 commandments testify against us - it witnesses against us that we have sinned against God and cannot enter into His presence.

John 1:17 (NKJV)¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Law came Before Jesus

The law came before Jesus came to redeem us; the law was already in place with its do's and don'ts, it was an unmerciful nearer kinsman, which laid claim to you and me.

Galatians 3:24 (NKJV) ²⁴ Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Romans 3:19–20 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. ²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Boaz Informs Naomi and Ruth's need to be Redeemed (4:3-6)

Ruth 4:3 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.

Ruth 4:4 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.’ ” And he said, “I will redeem it.”

Ruth 4:5 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.”

Ruth 4:6 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.”

Recap Leviticus 25 and Deuteronomy 25

So again for a refresher. God had put in place in Israel that if anyone came upon hard times and had to sell their land for whatever reason, every 50 years (called the Year of Jubilee), that the land would revert back to them and their family regardless how much money had been paid for the land. But if before that time the seller/original owner came up with the money to buy the land back, they could. And/Or, if one of the sellers/original owners immediate family relationship (brother, uncle, cousin) they could buy it back for the family. That person was called a “Kinsman Redeemer”, a “Goel – in the Hebrew”. And, it also all tied into what is called the “Law of the Leverite Marriage”, in which if a husband died, one of the husbands Kinsman Redeemer was expected to carry on the brothers family name and lineage by taking the widow as a wife, and have a child with her that would be considered the deceased brother’s son, and thus his name and lineage would carry forth.

Leviticus 25:47–52 (NKJV) ⁴⁷ Now if a sojourner or stranger close to you becomes rich, and one of your brethren who dwells by him becomes poor, and sells himself to the stranger or sojourner close to you, or to a member of the stranger's family, ⁴⁸ after he is sold he may be redeemed again. One of his brothers may redeem him; ⁴⁹ or his uncle or his uncle's son may redeem him; or anyone who is near of kin to him in his family may redeem him; or if he is able he may redeem himself. ⁵⁰ Thus he shall reckon with him who bought him: The price of his release shall be according to the number of years, from the year that he was sold to him until the Year of Jubilee; it shall be according to the time of a hired servant for him. ⁵¹ If there are still many years remaining, according to them he shall repay the price of his redemption from the money with which he was bought. ⁵² And if there remain but a few years until the Year of Jubilee, then he shall reckon with him, and according to his years he shall repay him the price of his redemption.

Deuteronomy 25:5–10 (NKJV) ⁵ “If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the widow of the dead man shall not be married to a stranger outside the family; her husband's brother shall go in to her, take her as his wife, and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her. ⁶ And it shall be that the firstborn son which she bears will succeed to the name of his dead brother, that his name may not be blotted out of Israel. ⁷ But if the man does not want to take his brother's wife, then let his brother's wife go up to the gate to the elders, and say, ‘My husband's brother refuses to raise up a name to his brother in Israel; he will not perform the duty of my husband's brother.’ ⁸ Then the elders of his city shall call him and speak to him. But if he stands firm and says, ‘I do not want to take her,’ ⁹ then his brother's wife shall come to him in the presence of the elders, remove his sandal from his foot, spit in his face, and answer and say, ‘So shall it be done to the man who will not build up his brother's house.’ ¹⁰ And his name shall be called in Israel, ‘The house of him who had his sandal removed.’ ”

Right & Responsibility / Yes to Property – No to People

So the kinsman not only had the right to redeem the property (payoff all debt existing against the property), but an obligation to take care of the family, and in this case it meant to take care of both Naomi and Ruth. This kinsman redeemer, says I like the property, yes sir I am all about building bigger barns, but no thanks to helping people, expanding property yes, helping people no.

Nearer Kin becomes Mr. Irrelevant

Back in verse 1, Boaz said “come aside friend”, and the word for friend actually reads “so and so”. The meaning is that Boaz knew exactly the nearer-kin name. It could have well read, and Boaz said “come aside Joe Smith”. But Joe Smith is left out, because Joe Smith made himself irrelevant, he made himself unmemorable, because he chose not to man-up, step-up, and fulfill the role God gave him opportunity to fulfill. And so it will be for each and every one of us, when God gives us opportunity to do something “great or small”, but we say no thanks, that would be inconvenient for me, that would mess up my livelihood, take me away from my comfort and ease time, I can't do it, let someone else do it. And we do that enough times, we become irrelevant, a life that leaves no mark in the Kingdom, maybe even unmemorable.

Boaz Redemeeds the Land and the Bride (4:7-10)

Ruth 4:7 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.

Ruth 4:8 Therefore the close relative said to Boaz, “Buy it for yourself.” So he took off his sandal.

Ruth 4:9 And Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “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.

Ruth 4:10 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.”

Shoe = Open Door for Boaz

The Shoe, to the giver a symbol of shame, to Boaz, a marriage license. It opened the door for him to take a Gentile Bride. Boaz is now clear to be the kinsman redeemer. Remember back in Deuteronomy 25, the rejected widow had the right to not only take off his shoe, but spit in his face. So the key here, the nearer kinsman takes his shoe off and says, I can't, so now according to the Law of God, Boaz can buy the land and get the girl.

Deuteronomy 25:5-10 (NKJV) ⁵ “If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the widow of the dead man shall not be married to a stranger outside the family; her husband's brother shall go in to her, take her as his wife, and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her. ⁶ And it shall be that the firstborn son which she bears will succeed to the name of his dead brother, that his name may not be blotted out of Israel. ⁷ But if the man does not want to take his brother's wife, then let his brother's wife go up to the gate to the elders, and say, ‘My husband's brother refuses to raise up a name to his brother in Israel; he will not perform the duty of my husband's brother.’ ⁸ Then the elders of his city shall call him and speak to him. But if he stands firm and says, ‘I do not want to take her,’ ⁹ then his brother's wife shall come to him in the presence of the elders, remove his sandal from his foot, spit in his face, and answer and say, ‘So shall it be done to the man who will not build up his brother's house.’ ¹⁰ And his name shall be called in Israel, ‘The house of him who had his sandal removed.’

Boaz Receives the Blessings of the Elders (4:11-12)

Ruth 4:11 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; and may you prosper in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem.

Ruth 4:12 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.”

Spit in Face – Walk Home without Shoe / For the Joy Set before Him

The kin who is closer could say no and if he was and would say no, then the person would be spit in their face and their shoe taken. They would walk home without a shoe as a symbol of shame that they weren't man enough to step up and do what God would ask of him to do. But how amazing, Jesus said yes and yet He was still spit on. Jesus was more than taken from shoe-less. He was stripped down to nothing and yet, He would say, "for the joy that was set before me, I endured the cross." You can do a word play there. Jesus calls you "Joy" because you are the joy that set before Him.

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NKJV) ¹ Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Law Could Not Redeem Us – Only Condemn Us

What is the picture that is being said here and painted for us regarding salvation? It is that the nearer kinsman, the one that came first, the Law, could not redeem us. The more we study the Law, the more we see how

condemned we are by the Law, which was exactly the point of the Law, to show us our need for a Savior because the Law condemns us. These 10 witnesses (elders) all confirm, all agree, that Boaz has the right to redeem Ruth, that the Law (that nearer kinsman) did not have the ability, capability, to redeem her.

*Galatians 3:24 (NKJV)*²⁴ Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

*Romans 3:19–20 (NKJV)*¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

10 Commandments

Now we are told in James 2, that if you break one of the commandments, God considers you guilty of them all. What we get out of that is that God doesn't grade sin on a curve. Stealing is as offensive to God as murder is, because God is perfect, and any imperfection is an offense to Him (Habakkuk 1:13). Secondly, just one offense is enough to be guilty, no three strikes you are out, but one offense and you are guilty. So have you ever stolen anything, regardless of the value, if so you are guilty before God, the Law can't save you it only condemns you, and you need a Savior. The Commandments say you shall not murder, have you ever murdered someone, if so you are guilty before God, the Law can't save you it only condemns you, and you need a Savior. But get this, everyone thinks the keeping of the Law is only outward, but Jesus showed us that it is not only outward but inward, as He said if you have hatred in your heart he considers that equal to murder, and there again you are guilty before God, the Law can't save you it only condemns you, and you need a Savior. Jesus said the Law said you shall not commit adultery, but if you look upon a woman/man with lust you are guilty, ever done that, if so you are guilty before God, the Law can't save you it only condemns you, and you need a Savior.

*James 2:10–11 (NKJV)*¹⁰ For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all.¹¹ For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

*Habakkuk 1:13 (NKJV)*¹³ You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. Why do You look on those who deal treacherously, And hold Your tongue when the wicked devours A person more righteous than he?

*Matthew 5:21–22 (NKJV)*²¹ You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.'²² But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

*Matthew 5:27–30 (NKJV)*²⁷ You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'²⁸ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

*Exodus 20:1–17 (NKJV)*¹ And God spoke all these words, saying:² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.³ You shall have no other gods before Me.⁴ You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.⁷ You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.⁸ Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work,¹⁰ but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.¹² Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.¹³ You shall not murder.¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.¹⁵ You shall not steal.¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."

Commands Only Condemn – Can't Save

If Ruth or Naomi had the money, then they could have paid off their own debt and bought back the land themselves, but their debt was beyond their ability to pay. If you can keep all ten of the commandments, perfectly, then you do not need a Boaz to rescue you, your works save you, for your works prove out you are perfect and therefore can boldly and with full assurance enter into the presence of the perfect God, because you are perfect. But, if we are honest, there are none that are perfect, and God says there are none perfect, we are

guilty, the debt is greater than we can pay, and the wages of sin is death. We need a Savior. The nearer kinsman said, "I already have a family, he said, I cannot redeem." So too we think the law can save us through our good works, we realize in the end that it cannot redeem us. The more you read the Law, study the Law, and know the Law – the more you realize that the Law is not your redeemer, but it is our condemner. The law points out our weaknesses, failings, flaws. The law shows us we need someone to come along and save us.

Romans 3:10–11 (NKJV)¹⁰ As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God."

Romans 3:23 (NKJV)²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 6:23 (NKJV)²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Isaiah 59:1–2 (NKJV)¹ Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. ² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

Prophetic Picture (Buy Land to Get the Treasure)

Now, catch this prophetic picture, and follow it through with me. Boaz is going to buy the land to get the treasure in the land..... Ruth. Does Boaz need more land, does Boaz care about the land, not at all. All Boaz cares about is getting the treasure that is in the field, and that is Ruth. Sound familiar?

Matthew 13:44 (NKJV)⁴⁴ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Satan offered Jesus the field(the kingdom of the power and glory), because he doesn't understand the thinking of Jesus. For Jesus isn't interested in the field, he's interested in the treasure in the field, the treasure of the bride. Matthew 13:44, the treasure in the field, sell all. It's not a call for us to sell our all because we can't. It's a picture of God selling all to have us. The romance of redemption. It's about a father finding a bride for the son and the father points out you and me and say, I have one, look at this treasure, look at this beauty.

John 3:16 (NKJV)¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life

What does the prophet of man gain? The whole world in the end loses his soul. God is speaking and saying, one man is worth more than the whole world, that's being said, (yes - as well as the call to us of what's important in our life). Today's world makes man common and willing to just throw him away, but not God as he sees us as the treasure in the field worth more than all the world.

Mark 8:36 (NKJV)³⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

There was a redeemer for us called the law, a closer redeemer, but it could not fulfill and redeem us because we could not fulfill our end of the requirement called perfection.

John 19:28–30 (NKJV)²⁸ After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" ²⁹ Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put *it* on hyssop, and put *it* to His mouth. ³⁰ So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished! (PAID IN FULL)" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Empty Promise

The world and people seem to deliver us so many empty promises. I am going to do this for you, I am going to give that to you, I will be there for you, and then after much hope, comes much let down, the empty promise. I love God's empty promise, for it leaves me full, and full of hope:

Luke 24:1–7 (NKJV)¹ Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. ² But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. ³ Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. ⁵ Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, ⁷ saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' "

1 Corinthians 15:12–19 (NKJV)¹² Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. ¹⁴ And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. ¹⁵ Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. ¹⁶ For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. ¹⁷ And if Christ is not risen, your

*faith is futile; you are still in your sins!*¹⁸ Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.¹⁹ If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

1 Corinthians 15:53–58 (NKJV)⁵³ For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.⁵⁴ So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."⁵⁵ "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

When D.L. Moody was a young man and had just started preaching, he was asked to preach a funeral. In preparing for His message, he searched the four Gospels looking to find a sermon that Christ had used at a funeral. However, in his search, he quickly discovered that Christ broken up every funeral he attended, because death could not exist where he was.

Think about this; every time the dead heard His voice, they sprang to life. As the resurrection and the life, Jesus Christ is the author of life and the conqueror of death, for it is impossible for death to stand in His presence.

- There is the 12-year-old daughter of Jairus. (Mark 5)
- There is the widow's son in the small village of Nain. (Luke 7)
- There is also the well-known resurrection of Lazarus, whom Jesus called forth from gave after he had been dead for four days. (John 11)

Archeologists have found the burial sites of Egypt's greatest kings buried in massive tombs with great wealth. And yet, these kings are still in their tombs and they are still very dead.

The Taj Mahal in India is one of the world's most dazzling tombs, and its occupants are still there, and are still very dead.

Mohammed died in 632 and he is still in his grave in Medina.

In the Red Square of Moscow lies the preserved body of Lenin, but he is still dead

Boaz Takes his Bride Ruth (4:13)

Ruth 4:13 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.

All Ruth had to Do – Take Me

Boaz gets the girl, gets his bride. Picture of Jesus and you. And what did Ruth have to do in all this? All she had to say was take me under the shadow of your wing, and then Boaz did the rest.

Ruth 3:8–9 (NKJV)⁸ Now it happened at midnight that the man was startled, and turned himself; and there, a woman was lying at his feet.⁹ And he said, "Who are you?" So she answered, "I am Ruth, your maid-servant. Take your maid-servant under your wing, for you are a close relative."

Look at All Boaz did in this Chapter

Look at all we covered in this chapter, and we see Boaz never rested, we see Boaz doing all the work, and Ruth doing nothing but resting in that Boaz would not rest.

- Boaz Waits at Gate for the Closer Relative (4:1)
- Boaz Gathers 10 Elders of the City (4:2)
- Boaz Informs Naomi and Ruth's need to be Redeemed (4:3-6)
- Boaz Redeems the Land and the Bride (4:7-10)
- Boaz Receives the Blessings of the Elders (4:11-12)
- Boaz Takes his Bride Ruth (4:13)
- Boaz Begets (fathers) the Lineage of the King (4:14-22)

Boaz Begets (fathers) the Lineage of the King (4:14-22)

Ruth 4:14 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!"

Ruth 4:15 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."

Ruth 4:16 Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her bosom, and became a nurse to him.

Ruth 4:17 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.

Ruth 4:18 Now this is the genealogy of Perez: Perez begot Hezron;

Ruth 4:19 Hezron begot Ram, and Ram begot Amminadab;

Ruth 4:20 Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon;

Ruth 4:21 Salmon begot Boaz, and Boaz begot Obed;

Ruth 4:22 Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David.

Beautiful Picture Naomi Nursing

What a beautiful picture we see of Naomi coming back to Bethlehem "so-called" empty, but here she is nursing a child who will be in the lineage of the King of Israel whose throne would never end (King David), and the King of the Hearts (the Seed of the Messiah - Jesus).

Links Jesus to Bethlehem & David /

Without this book by the way, Jesus couldn't be linked to Bethlehem. When Herod calls his counselors and say where is the so-called messiah to be born, and they dig into the Word and say Micah 5:2 (Matthew links this passage in Micah.). This verse predicts where Jesus was to be born, and Ruth links the lineage that puts Him there in Bethlehem.

***Micah 5:2 (NKJV)** ² "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."*

Matthew 1 Genealogy

And of course as we look at this genealogy here in Ruth, we see it again in Matthew's Gospel that gives the whole string from Abraham to Jesus.

Matthew 1:1–17 (NKJV) ¹ The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham: ² Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. ³ Judah begot Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez begot Hezron, and Hezron begot Ram. ⁴ Ram begot Amminadab, Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon. ⁵ Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, ⁶ and Jesse begot David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. ⁷ Solomon begot Rehoboam, Rehoboam begot Abijah, and Abijah begot Asa. ⁸ Asa begot Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat begot Joram, and Joram begot Uzziah. ⁹ Uzziah begot Jotham, Jotham begot Ahaz, and Ahaz begot Hezekiah. ¹⁰ Hezekiah begot Manasseh, Manasseh begot Amon, and Amon begot Josiah. ¹¹ Josiah begot Jeconiah and his brothers about the time they were carried away to Babylon. ¹² And after they were brought to Babylon, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel, and Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel. ¹³ Zerubbabel begot Abiud, Abiud begot Eliakim, and Eliakim begot Azor. ¹⁴ Azor begot Zadok, Zadok begot Achim, and Achim begot Eliud. ¹⁵ Eliud begot Eleazar, Eleazar begot Matthan, and Matthan begot Jacob. ¹⁶ And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. ¹⁷ So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.

Where Thou Goes I Shall Go

Here is a great "reset" for Easter – make it a prayer to God..... where you go I will go! Boaz was willing to put his heart desire in jeopardy to be 100% obedient to God's word. And he does this by saying, there is a closer redeemer. Don't compromise. Easter is a great day for new beginnings. Trust he can. He gave his life and he has given you something better than what you think your heart desire knowing it is going against the word of God.

***Ruth 1:15–18 (NKJV)** ¹⁵ And she said, "Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶ But Ruth said: "Entreat me not to leave you, Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever 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. The LORD do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me." ¹⁸ When she saw that she was determined to go with her, she stopped speaking to her.*

Communion

1 Corinthians 11:23–26 (NKJV) ²³ For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵ In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

Come to Throne of Grace

So now come to the throne of grace and spend time with the Lord, ask Him take this word and work it into your life.

****Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)*** ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Prayer Guide

- Reverence – What do we see about our Great God?
- Response – How do I respond to all that He is?
- Requests – What can I boldly request from Him based on this?
- Readiness – What do I need to be on-guard against when I leave here today?
- Reverence – How great is Our God?

End of Study