

## Leviticus: Living Life at the Second Fork

Kinsman-Redeemer

Leviticus 25:23-25; Ruth

December 7, 2025

**Leviticus 25:23** "... for the land is Mine..." The Israelites lived on God's land; we live on His planet, in His universe, and we ourselves belong to Him, our Creator.

**Vv 24,25** "kinsman" and "buy back" same word, *go-el*; "redemption" cognate (derivative) of *go-el*; God's ingenious plan for keeping land in the family and preventing generational poverty.

**Deuteronomy 25:5-10** God's plan for Israel to prevent loss of family land; Levirate (*brother*, not *Levitical*) marriage.

The book of Ruth, from 1,000 BC, provides a living picture of how the kinsman-redeemer looked; we find here a picture of Jesus Christ, our Kinsman-Redeemer, and we see His motive: He loves us.

**Ruth 1:1-5** This family is from Bethlehem.

**Vv 16-18** Ruth returns to Bethlehem after the famine, with one of her widowed daughters in law, Ruth; the other, Orpah, returns to her people and her gods.

**2:1,2** Boaz is a near kinsman of Ruth's late husband. Ruth exercises her right to glean from the fields; see **Leviticus 23:22**, another of God's gracious plans to provide for the needy.

**Vv 5,6** The Moabite was typically a *persona non grata* in Israel; see **Deuteronomy 23:3; Psalm 108:9** "Moab is My washbowl. . ."

**Vv 8,9** Boaz is interested in Ruth's well-being.

**V 10** "Why have I found favor in your sight...? Like Ruth, we are in the same situation with God; see **Romans 5:6-10**.

**Vv 11-20** Boaz shows Ruth love, and Ruth learns that he is a near-kinsman of her late husband.

**3:8-10** This was the customary way for the woman to say to the man, "Be my kinsman-redeemer."

**12-18** Boaz accepts his role; but there is another kinsman actually closer than he; Naomi tells Ruth, "Wait, and let him redeem you." We WAIT; Jesus FINISHES redemption.

**4:1-6** The other kinsman refuses to redeem the land of Elimelech and his sons, as well as the widow Ruth. Some see in this the impossibility of the Law to save; **Romans 8:3** "For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His own Son..."

**Vv 7-10** Boaz took Ruth's place in negotiating her redemption, the same way that Jesus took our place.

**Revelation 5:9** "...for You were slain, and purchased [redeemed] for God with Your blood..." Boaz spent his money; Jesus bought us with His blood.

**Galatians 3:10-12** The curse of the Law is that it does not reward with life, it only condemns for disobedience; there is no faith involved in the Law; there is either life, with 100% obedience, or death, with one single infraction.

**Vv 13,14** Christ purchased us out of that system, and gives us Life.

**Galatians 4:4-7** Jesus had to be born, in human flesh, to be our Kinsman-Redeemer; when He bought us, we were adopted as mature sons, with all the rights and privileges therein.

**1 Peter 1:18-19** Jesus bought us out of our "futile way of life." He gives us a purpose for living.

**Titus 2:14** Jesus "gave Himself for us" to "redeem (set free by a ransom) us from every lawless deed..." Our purpose in life is to shift from "lawless deeds" to "good deeds."

**1 Corinthians 6:20** "For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body." We were purchased back by our original Owner, with a purpose, that being to glorify God in our very existence.

**Ruth 4:13-22; Matthew 1:1-6.** And now you know why Jesus was born in Bethlehem; that's where the Kinsman-Redeemer lived.

Jesus had in His veins the harlot blood of Rahab, and the Moabite blood of Ruth; He was one of us; He is our Kinsman-Redeemer.

**Ruth 4:9** "Then Boaz said...I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon." Redemption had been purchased for Orpah, too, but she did not receive it, because she was not there.

**1 Timothy 2:5,6** "... the man Christ Jesus...who gave Himself as a ransom for all..." *Jesus died for everyone*. Have you believed in Him as your Redeemer?