

The Book of RUTH

Chapter 4

“FAITH’S REWARD!”

(v1-6) To redeem, or not to redeem? That is the question! (The law regulating redemption of property (v3) is given in Leviticus 25:25-34, whereas, the law regarding a brother’s duty to raise up seed to the deceased is in Deuteronomy 25:5-10.)

> **BOAZ** - An **ACTS** kind a man (or kinsman)!

A - ACTION - Matthew 7:7-11 - “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

C - COMMITMENT - Psalms 37:5-6 - *Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass.*

T - TESTIMONY - Acts 1:8

S - SALVATION - JESUS OUR REDEEMER! – **Understanding REDEMPTION** - Deliverance by payment of a price. In the New Testament, redemption refers to salvation from sin, death, and the wrath of God by Christ’s sacrifice. In the Old Testament, the word redemption refers to redemption by a **KINSMAN** (Leviticus 25:24-51-52; Ruth 4:6; Jeremiah 32:7-8), rescue or deliverance (Numbers 3:49), and ransom (Psalms 111:9; 130:7). In the New Testament it refers to loosing (Luke 2:38; Hebrews 9:12) and loosing away (Luke 21:28; Romans 3:24; Ephesians 1:14). In the Old Testament redemption was applied to property, animals, persons, and the nation of Israel as a whole. In nearly every instance, freedom from obligation, bondage, or danger was secured by the payment of a price, a ransom, bribe, satisfaction, or sum of money paid to obtain freedom, favor, or reconciliation. Men may redeem property, animals, and individuals (slaves, prisoners, indentured relatives) who are legally obligated to God or in bondage for other reasons. God alone, however, is able to redeem from the slavery of sin (Psalms 130:7-8), enemy oppressors (Deuteronomy 15:15), and the power of death (Job 19:25-26; Psalms 49:8-9). The New Testament emphasizes the tremendous cost of redemption: “the precious blood of Christ” (1 Peter 1:19; Ephesians 1:7), which is also called an atoning sacrifice, “a propitiation by His blood” (Romans 3:25). Believers are exhorted to remember the “price” of their redemption as a motivation to personal holiness (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 1 Peter 1:13-19). The Bible also emphasizes the result of redemption: freedom from sin and freedom to serve God through Jesus Christ our Lord. How can we fail to rejoice, having been freed from the oppressive bondage of slavery to sin (John 8:34; Romans 6:18), the law (Galatians 4:3-5; 5:1), and the fear of death (Hebrews 2:14-15)? “Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed” (John 8:36). (Nelson’s Bible Dictionary)

Believers are redeemed: (1) From the curse of the law - Gal 3:13-14 - Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. (2) Through Christ’s precious blood - Heb 9:11-15 - But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

(v7-12) **The WITNESS OF REDEMPTION - Romans 3:21-29**

(v13-16) **Let the voice of the redeemed rejoice! Let the redeemed sing - Rev 5:8-10 - Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and have made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth.”**

(v17-22) **OBED (worshiper)** - The son of Boaz and Ruth (Ruth 4:17-22; 1 Chronicles 2:12) and an ancestor of Jesus (Matthew 1:5). Ruth’s **FAITH** decision- “Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God” (Ruth 1:16) along with Boaz’s faithful following of **GOD’S WORD** brought them both a rich **REWARD**. They became an ancestor of David and Jesus (Matthew 1:5). Truly the words of Boaz were fulfilled, “The **LORD** repay your work, and a **FULL REWARD** be given you by the **LORD** God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.”