

Ruth: Full Redemption

Ruth 4:1-22

July 17, 2022

Jay Haugh

Ruth is given to remind us of God's heart to save.

remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)

Our redemption story is just like Ruth's redemption story.

A nation of little redeemers

The First Redeemer

Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat down there just as the guardian-redeemer he had mentioned came along. Boaz said, "Come over here, my friend, and sit down." So he went over and sat down. (Ruth 4:1 NIV)

The town gate was where disputes, complaints, and problems were settled.

The Shrewdness of Boaz

² Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said, "Sit here," and they did so. ³ Then he said to the guardian-redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our relative Elimelek. (Ruth 4:2-3 NIV)

"Go ahead and be the "redeemer" if you want, but if you don't want to, I will redeem it."

⁴ I thought I should bring the matter to your attention and suggest that you buy it in the presence of these seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, do so. But if you will not, tell me, so I will know. For no one has the right to do it except you, and I am next in line." "I will redeem it," he said. (Ruth 4:4 NIV)

⁵ Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the land from Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the dead man's widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property. (Ruth 4:5 NIV)

To be the redeemer this man has to count the cost.

⁶ At this, the guardian-redeemer said, "Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it." (Ruth 4:6 NIV)

"Man" doesn't have the heart or means to bring full redemption.

⁹ Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, "Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelek, Chilion and Mahlon. ¹⁰ I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite, Mahlon's widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from his hometown. Today you are witnesses!" (Ruth 4:9-10 NIV)

⁷ However, if a man does not want to marry his brother's wife, she shall go to the elders at the town gate and say, "My husband's brother refuses to carry on his brother's name in Israel. He will not fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law to me." ⁸ Then the elders of his town shall summon him and talk to him. If he persists in saying, "I do not want to marry her," ⁹ his brother's widow shall go up to him in the presence of the elders, take off one of his sandals, spit in his face and

say, *"This is what is done to the man who will not build up his brother's family line."* ¹⁰ That man's line shall be known in Israel as *The Family of the Unsandaled*. (Deuteronomy 25:7-10)

The Third Redeemer

¹³ So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. ¹⁴ The women said to Naomi: *"Praise be to the LORD, who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel!"* ¹⁵ He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth." ¹⁶ Then Naomi took the child in her arms and cared for him. (Ruth 4:13-16 NIV)

The child of Ruth is a redeemer too.

Naomi was bitter and empty.

"renew her life and sustain her in her old age."

¹⁷ The women living there said, *"Naomi has a son!"* And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David. ¹⁸ This, then, is the family line of Perez: Perez was the father of Hezron, ¹⁹ Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab, ²⁰ Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, ²¹ Salmon the father of Boaz, Boaz the father of Obed, ²² Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David. (Ruth 4:17-22 NIV)

remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. (Ephesians 2:12)

Big Idea: The kinsman-redeemer is willing and does whatever is necessary to bring redemption.