

Redemption and the Faithfulness of God

The final chapter of Ruth brings the story full circle. What began with loss and uncertainty ends with redemption, restoration, and a glimpse of God's greater plan. In this chapter, Boaz fulfills his role as **kinsman-redeemer**, securing Ruth's future and preserving Naomi's family line. This story is not just about Boaz and Ruth—it foreshadows **Christ's redemption of His people**.

Boaz Fulfills His Role as Redeemer

Boaz wasted no time. He went straight to the city gate, where legal matters were handled, and waited for the closer relative—the one with the first right to redeem Naomi's land. When the man arrived, Boaz gathered ten elders to serve as witnesses.

He explained the situation:

"Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our brother Elimelech. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not, tell me, so that I will know." (Ruth 4:3-4)

At first, the relative agreed. Land was a valuable asset, and he was willing to redeem it. But Boaz added one key detail:

"On the day you buy the land from Naomi, you must also marry Ruth the Moabitess, to raise up the name of the dead in his inheritance." (Ruth 4:5)

Suddenly, the man backed out. This would have complicated his own inheritance, so he told Boaz, ***"You redeem it yourself."*** He then performed the traditional act of renouncing his right—removing his sandal and handing it to Boaz.

This legal transaction gave Boaz the right to redeem both the land and Ruth, fulfilling the role of the kinsman-redeemer.

Personal Application: Jesus, Our Kinsman-Redeemer

This scene is a beautiful **foreshadowing of Jesus Christ**, our ultimate Kinsman-Redeemer.

- **Just as Boaz was willing to redeem Ruth, Jesus willingly redeemed us.**
- **Just as Boaz paid the price for the land and the bride, Jesus paid the price for our sins with His blood.**
- **Just as Boaz brought Ruth into a new life, Jesus brings us into His kingdom.**

We were spiritually poor and without hope, just like Ruth and Naomi. But Jesus saw us, loved us, and stepped in as our Redeemer.

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." (Ephesians 1:7)

Boaz didn't have to redeem Ruth—he chose to. In the same way, Jesus **chose** to redeem us, even though it cost Him everything.

A Marriage and a Blessing

After the legal transaction was settled, Boaz took Ruth as his wife. The elders and the people blessed their union, comparing Ruth to Rachel and Leah—the matriarchs of Israel. They prayed that Boaz's family would be fruitful and that his name would be famous in Bethlehem.

Soon, Ruth gave birth to a son named **Obed**, who would become the grandfather of King David.

Naomi, who once called herself *Mara (bitter)*, now held a grandchild in her arms. The women of the town rejoiced with her, saying:

"Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a kinsman-redeemer... May he be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age!" (Ruth 4:14-15)

What a turnaround! Naomi, who once believed God had abandoned her, now saw His faithfulness in the most unexpected way.

Personal Application: Trusting God's Greater Plan

1. **God is always working, even when we don't see it.**

- Naomi had given up hope, but God had a plan all along.
- Maybe you're in a season of waiting, wondering how God will provide. Trust that **He is always working behind the scenes.**

2. **God redeems brokenness and turns it into blessing.**

- Ruth was a foreigner, a widow, and an outsider—but God used her to bring forth King David's lineage, and ultimately, Jesus Christ.
- No matter your past, **God can use you for His glory.**

3. **Jesus is our Redeemer.**

- Just as Boaz paid the price for Ruth, Jesus **paid the price for our sin.**
- We belong to Him, and He has brought us into His family.

4. **God's plans are bigger than our immediate struggles.**

- Naomi and Ruth's story didn't just affect them—it led to the birth of **David**, and later, **Jesus Christ.**
- What God is doing in your life isn't just for you—it has an impact on **future generations.**

Conclusion: Redemption, Restoration, and Hope

The book of Ruth ends with **redemption**—both personal and generational.

- Ruth, the outsider, becomes part of the lineage of the Messiah.
- Naomi, who felt forgotten, experiences joy and restoration.
- Boaz, the redeemer, points us to Jesus Christ, our ultimate Redeemer.

This story is a reminder that **God's plans far exceed our expectations**. No matter where you've been or what you've lost, **He is writing a greater story than you can imagine**.

Just as Ruth trusted in Boaz, **we can trust in Jesus**—the One who redeems, restores, and gives us a future full of hope.