

Ruth-chapter 3

The book of Ruth begins w/ 3 funerals & ends w/ a wedding ch 4. Starts out w/ weeping & despair over the death of a husband & two sons & ends w/ hope & rejoicing & new life....2024 New years...

We shouldn't think just because we've been stuck in a rut this week that we'll spend the rest of our life there or because we've fallen into a pit that, that will be our future from now on. **Grave yard**

So we find w/ Naomi & *Ruth* ***'weeping may last for the night but a shout of joy comes in the morning Ps 30:5 "Those who sow in tears will reap w/ joyful shouting' Ps 126:5***

Ruth by God's providence (**God overruling care**) gleaned in the field of a close relative, a kinsman, **goel**. Naomi's outlook & disposition began to change as she recognized the hand of God on the women's circumstances.

She said when she came back home from Moab, don't call me pleasant but call me bitter because God has made my life very bitter because 'I went out full and the Lord has brought me back empty'. **Yet God was working good**

Naomi's attention is now off herself & onto her daughter in law, Ruth & she is revived. **One another fellowship**—lose life to gain it

1 Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, shall I not seek security for you, that it may be well with you? 2 "And now is not Boaz our kinsman, with whose maids you were? Behold, he winnows barley at the threshing floor tonight.

Winnow – large flat limestone bedrock – thresh or flail/pound--breaking kernel away from husk toss in air & let wind blow lighter chaff away & grain/corn falls to ground.

3 *“Wash yourself therefore, and anoint yourself and put on your best clothes, and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. 4 “And it shall be when he lies down, that you shall notice the place where he lies, and you shall go and uncover his feet and lie down; then he will tell you what you shall do.” 5 And she said to her, “All that you say I will do.”*

Fix yourself up—**frumpy** is not a sign of godliness & internet **glam-queen** will not get a Boaz kind of man—**sow to the flesh reap corruption** Naomi tells Ruth to make yourself available for marriage to a close of kin who is Boaz. He likely 20 years older & would not impose himself upon the younger Ruth. She 30 & he 50? Widow makes the advance toward the goel, **I'm available**

Deut 25:5-10 *“When brothers live together and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the deceased shall not be married outside the family to a strange man. Her husband’s brother shall go in to her and take her to himself as wife and perform the duty of a husband’s brother to her. 6 “And it shall be that the first-born whom she bears shall assume the name of his dead brother, that his name may not be blotted out from Israel. 7 “But if the man does not desire to take his brother’s wife, then his brother’s wife shall go up to the gate to the elders and say, ‘My husband’s brother refuses to establish a name for his brother in Israel; he is not willing to perform the duty of a husband’s brother to me.’ 8 “Then the elders of his city shall summon him and speak to him. And if he persists and says, ‘I do not desire to take her,’ 9 then his brother’s wife shall come to him in the sight of the elders, and pull his sandal off his foot and spit in his face; and she shall declare, ‘Thus it is done to the man who does not build up his brother’s house.’ 10 “And in Israel his name shall be called, ‘The house of him whose sandal is removed.’*

Not a sexual thing but a formal, righteous proposal to the next of kin, goel, redeemer—one who sets free by paying a price.

Sadducees tried to use it to trap Jesus **Mark 12:18-27** *And some Sadducees (who say that there is no resurrection) came to Him, and began questioning Him, saying, 19 “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that IF A MAN’S BROTHER DIES, and leaves behind a wife, AND LEAVES NO CHILD, HIS BROTHER SHOULD TAKE THE WIFE, AND RAISE UP OFFSPRING TO HIS BROTHER. 20 “There were seven brothers; and the first took a wife, and died, leaving no offspring. 21 “And the second one took her, and died, leaving behind no offspring; and the third likewise; 22 and so all seven left no offspring. Last of all the woman died also. 23 “In the resurrection, when they rise again, which one’s wife will she be? For all seven had her as wife.” 24 Jesus said to them, “Is this not the reason you are*

mistaken, that you do not understand the Scriptures, or the power of God? 25 “For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. 26 “But regarding the fact that the dead rise again, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the burning bush, how God spoke to him, saying, ‘I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, and the God of Jacob’? 27 “He is not the God of the dead, but of the living; you are greatly mistaken.”

6 So she went down to the threshing floor and did according to all that her mother-in-law had commanded her. 7 When Boaz had eaten and drunk and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain; and she came secretly, and uncovered his feet and lay down. 8 And it happened in the middle of the night that the man was startled and bent forward; and behold, a woman was lying at his feet. 9 And he said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth your maid. So spread your covering over your maid, for you are a close relative.”

Covering sign of headship, protection symbol in marriage ceremony today called Chuppa a canopy or covering which Jewish couple stand under, a symbol of God’s presence at the wedding & in the home.

10 Then he said, “May you be blessed of the LORD, my daughter. You have shown your last kindness to be better than the first by not going after young men, whether poor or rich. 11 “And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you whatever you ask, for all my people in the city know that you are a woman of excellence. 12 “And now it is true I am a close relative; however, there is a relative closer than I. 13 “Remain this night, and when morning comes, if he will redeem you, good; let him redeem you. But if he does not wish to redeem you, then I will redeem you, as the LORD lives. Lie down until morning.”

Boaz points out the fact that she could have made herself attractive & available to younger men if she was that kind of woman but instead she was a woman of integrity & character who listened to wisdom of Naomi. Waiting on God & trusting Him for His will to be done which is always best. **Proverbs 31** woman. Problem: a closer relative who had right of redemption. Possibly an older brother. God always brings us thru testing in our trusting Him. Some won’t wait run off on a whim & elope.

14 So she lay at his feet until morning and rose before one could recognize another; and he said, "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." 15 Again he said, "Give me the cloak that is on you and hold it." So she held it, and he measured six measures of barley and laid it on her. Then she went into the city. 16 And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "How did it go, my daughter?" And she told her all that the man had done for her. 17 And she said, "These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said, 'Do not go to your mother-in-law empty-handed.'" 18 Then she said, "Wait, my daughter, until you know how the matter turns out; for the man will not rest until he has settled it today."

Ruth leaves before dawn, unrecognizable so there is no gossip or perverse speculation & talk. He gave orders to his servants to keep quiet. Boaz protects Ruth's reputation, doesn't want her to be seen in a compromised situation & have people talk. If a man does not respect a woman and does not protect her during their courtship & engagement period, it is unlikely that he will protect her after they get married. *Example Tim F pg 81*

Boaz loaded her w/ barley a sign of favor & provision & thoughtfulness of Naomi. Boaz considerate toward her family aware they returned w/ nothing and no one to help. Naomi too frail to glean in field so he abundantly supplied them w/ grain. Realizing Naomi coached Ruth the Moabite w/ the custom of covering at the threshing floor.

Naomi recognizes Boaz enthusiasm & will not rest until he settles things. People are watching. *Story of me and Danita in Colorado pg 83*