

Ruth 4 Redeeming Love

I. The Preliminaries

- A. Redemption means literally to buy back
- B. Goel
- C. Two Scripture passages of Relevance to redemption
 - 1. Lev 25:23 *"The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you are but aliens and my tenants. Throughout the country that you hold as a possession, you must provide for the redemption of the land. "If one of your countrymen becomes poor and sells some of his property, his nearest relative is to come and redeem what his countryman has sold.*
 - 2. Deut 25:5 *If brothers are living together and one of them dies without a son, his widow must not marry outside the family. Her husband's brother shall take her and marry her and fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law to her.*

Three Pictures of Salvation

I. Redeeming Lord

- A. **4:1** *Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat there. When the kinsman-redeemer he had mentioned came along, Boaz said, "Come over here, my friend, and sit down." So he went over and sat down.2 Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said, "Sit here," and they did so. 3 Then he said to the kinsman-redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our brother Elimelech. 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. 5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the land from Naomi and from Ruth the Moabitess, you acquire the dead man's widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property." 6 At this, the kinsman-redeemer said, "Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it."*

- B. Note that three things were necessary for there to be a kinsman redeemer
 - 1. Had to be a near kinsman
 - 2. Had to have the money
 - 3. Had to be willing
- C. Note that in terms of our salvation, only Christ could meet all three.
- D. Other particulars
 - 1. Who is the nearer kinsman?
 - a. Our Other suitors?
 - b. Adam?
 - c. Not Satan
 - 2. 10 Witnesses:
 - a. The Ten Commandments
 - b. Proof that Adam (Nearer Kinsman) cannot close the deal but Christ (Boaz) can.

II. Renewed Life

- A. ***7 (Now in earlier times in Israel, for the redemption and transfer of property to become final, one party took off his sandal and gave it to the other. This was the method of legalizing transactions in Israel.) 8 So the kinsman-redeemer said to Boaz, "Buy it yourself." And he removed his sandal. 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 Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon. 10 I have also acquired Ruth the Moabitess, 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 the town records. Today you are witnesses!" 11 Then the elders and all those at the gate said, "We are witnesses.***
- B. Boaz (Christ) stands in our shoes. He buys back the land and more importantly, Ruth. Ruth Will become his wife and inherit a whole new life. Adam's race will not die forever. The Child of Adam become the Children of God and live forever.
- C. What Christ has done for us is summarized well in Eph 2:12-15
 - 1. Eph 2:12 *That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the*

covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: 13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; 15 Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;

D. That is, like Ruth we were:

1. Aliens from the Commonwealth of Israel
 - a. Deut 23:3 *No Ammonite or Moabite or any of his descendants may enter the assembly of the LORD,*
2. Strangers from the covenants of promise
3. Without hope

III. Restored Legacy

A. **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 Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon.10 I have also acquired Ruth the Moabitess, 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 the town records. Today you are witnesses!" 11 Then the elders and all those at the gate said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem. 12 Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah." 13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. Then he went to her, and 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 kinsman-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, laid him in her lap and cared for him. 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.

B. Note what Ruth received

1. FAMILY -

a. ***10 I have...acquired Ruth the Moabitess, Mahlon's widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead ...so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from the town records***

b. We too according to Law were outside the family. But we, through the redemption of Christ have been grafted in and made a member of the family of God.

(1) Heb 2:11 *Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers.*

(2) Rom 11:17 *If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root,*

2. FORTUNE -

a. ***10 I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon....in order to maintain... his property***

b. Luke 22:28 *You are those who have stood by me in my trials. And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me,*

c. John 14:2 *In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.*

3. FAME -

a. ***11 Then the elders and all those at the gate said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem.12***

Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah."

- b. Rachael - the second wife of Jacob. Jacob had gone back to Haran for a wife and worked seven years to "buy" her. The witnesses here see an image of Ruth who also came from another land.
- c. Leah - Jacob's first wife. Not his favorite. But she too is invoked as an image of a wife from a distant land.
- d. Perez - Perez is invoked as one born "outside the Law. His mother Tamar's husband died and his father Judah ordered the next son in line to invoke the Leverite. But this son too died. His third son was too old to marry. So Tamar disguised herself as a prostitute and seduced Judah himself and conceived by him!

4. FRUITFULNESS -

- a. ***13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. Then he went to her, and 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 kinsman-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, laid him in her lap and cared for him. 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.***
- b. Mat 11:11 *I tell you the truth: Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the*

Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.