

Sunday Night Message

March 10, 2018

Better not Bitter

Series – *Ruth*

Text – Ruth 4

Introduction

Review Chapter 1 - 3

In chapter three we saw how the events unfolded leading up to the marriage of Boaz and Ruth. Up until chapter 3, Ruth is merely helping out her mother-in-law, and she is being helped by a man who happens to be related to Naomi's late husband (and Ruth's late husband as well). Of course, we also know that God is orchestrating all of these events.

The gospels tell us that these two eventually get married:

"And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse; And Jesse begat David the king; and David the king begat Solomon of her that had been the wife of Urias;" - (Matthew 1:5-6)

Review the breakdown of chapter 3:

- 1 Ruth Receives Permission Regarding a Relationship with Boaz (Ruth 3:1 – 5)
- 2 Boaz Responds Positively to Ruth's Proposal (vs. 6 – 13)
- 3 Ruth Returns with Provision and a Promise (vs. 14 – 18)

This week, we will see what happens to Boaz and Ruth.

I The Closer Relative Refuses to Redeem Ruth (vs. 1- 6)

You will remember, in chapter 3, Boaz only conditionally accepts the offer made by Ruth because there was a closer relative who should get the first chance to redeem Ruth and the piece of land.

Vs. 1 - 2 – The gate of the city was where public announcements were made. It was where government business was conducted. Ten men were called as witnesses to the transaction that was about to take place.

See Genesis 34:20 – 24; 2 Samuel 15:2

Vs. 3 – 4 – See Leviticus 25:8 – 28 regarding land redemption

Vs. 5 – 6 - This closer relative (un-named) was willing to redeem the land, but not willing to marry Ruth apparently because it would affect his children's inheritance. Boaz didn't appear to have any other children.

McGee believes that this closer, un-named relative represents the Old Testament Law. The Law could not redeem us. This man said he could not redeem Ruth.

II Ruth Is Redeemed by Boaz (vs. 7 – 12)

See - Deuteronomy 25:5 – 10 - regarding Levirate Marriages

See – Leviticus 25:23 – 28; 47 - 55

Remember, we said in the first lesson that in order to be a kinsman redeemer, a person had to be:

A Blood Relative

Possess the Purchase Price

Willing to Pay It

New Testament Application - We have been made free - Romans 6:15 – 22

We were in bondage to sin; but Christ has redeemed us.

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." - (John 8:36)

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." - (John 8:32)

This Gentile woman, Ruth, was a stranger to Boaz and an alien to Israel, but by God's grace, she is made his bride, and will become the great-grandmother of King David.

"Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; 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: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;" (Eph 2:11-

14)

III The Couple are Rewarded with a Child (vs. 13 – 17)

You can call her Naomi again – she is no longer empty, but full. She is no longer bitter; she is better.

When Christ redeems us, He fills our lives with blessings as well.

IV The Roots of David [and Christ](vs. 18 – 22)

See Mathew 1 – This child Obed (meaning “servant”) becomes the grandfather of David, and he is in the lineage of the Lord Jesus Christ.

