

## The Love Story of Ruth - New Covenant Favour & Redemption – Dan Ma -2/10/2016

### Ruth's story:

#### Chapter 1 - Ruth decides to make the God of Israel her God.

Ruth 1:15-18 “Look,” Naomi said to her, “your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and **to her gods**. You should do the same. “But Ruth replied, “Don’t ask me to leave you and turn back. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and **your God will be my God.** Wherever **you die**, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord punish me severely if I allow anything but death to separate us!” When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she said nothing more.

#### Note:

- Ruth’s loyalty towards God, wasn’t even because of God Himself, but because of loyalty to her mother in law. Many of us were saved because of “fire insurance.”
- Wherever **YOU DIE** (not where God dwells), I will die.

#### Chapter 2 - Ruth sets out to find favour

Ruth 2:2-3 Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, “Please **let me go to the field** and glean among the ears of grain after one in whose sight **I may find favour.**” And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.”

So Ruth went out to gather grain behind the harvesters. **And as it happened** (RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT TIME), she found herself working in a field that belonged to Boaz, the relative of her father-in-law, Elimelech.

#### Note:

- When you seek God to find favour, you’ll find yourself at the right place, at the right time; something that NONE of your skills, experience, and abilities could do for you!

Ruth 2:8-13 Then Boaz said to Ruth, “Listen carefully, my daughter. Do not go to glean in another field; furthermore, do not go on from this one, but stay here with my maids. Let your eyes be on the field which they reap, and go after them. Indeed, I have commanded the servants not to touch you. When you are thirsty, go to the water jars and drink from what the servants draw.” 10 Then she fell on her face, bowing to the ground and said to him, **“Why have I found favor in your sight that you should take notice of me, since I am a foreigner?”** 11 Boaz replied to her, **“All that you have done for your mother-in-law after the death of your husband has been fully reported to me,** and how you left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and came to a people that you did not previously know. May the Lord reward your work, and your wages be full from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge.” 13 Then she said, **“I have found favor in your sight,** my lord, for you have comforted me and indeed have spoken kindly to your maidservant, **though I am not like one of your maidservants.”**

#### Note:

- Verse 10, 13 - The favour of the Lord defies natural logic and reasoning
- Verse 11 - How did Boaz get to know about what Ruth had done? The favour of the Lord.

Ruth 2:14-16, 21 At mealtime Boaz said to her, “Come here, that you may eat of the bread and dip your piece of bread in the vinegar.” So she sat beside the reapers; and he served her roasted grain, and she ate and was satisfied and had some left. When she rose to glean, Boaz commanded his servants, saying, “Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not insult her. Also you shall **1. purposely pull out for her some grain from the bundles** and **2. leave it that she may glean,** and **3. do not rebuke her...** “You should stay close to my servants until they have finished all my harvest.’

**Note:** This is what happens when you make JESUS your Source

- Heb 4:16 Therefore let us **draw near with confidence** to the throne of **grace**, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to **help in time of need**.

### Chapter 3 – Ruth seeks out her redeemer

Ruth 3:1-4 One day Naomi said to Ruth, “My daughter, I must find a home for you, where you will be well provided for. Now Boaz, with whose women you have worked, is **a relative of ours**. Tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor. Wash, put on perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but don’t let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, **note the place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down**. He will tell you what to do.”

*Boaz awakes, and offers to redeem Ruth, but not before a relative who comes 1<sup>st</sup>, before Boaz.*

Ruth 3:12-13 Although it is true that I am a guardian-redeemer of our family, **there is another who is more closely related than I**. Stay here for the night, and in the morning if he wants to do his duty as your guardian-redeemer, good; let him redeem you. But **if he is not willing, as surely as the Lord lives I will do it**. Lie here until morning.”

Ruth 3:16-18 When Ruth came to her mother-in-law, Naomi asked, “How did it go, my daughter?” Then she told her everything Boaz had done for her... 18 Then she said, “**Sit still**, my daughter, until you know how the matter will turn out; for the man will not rest until he has concluded the matter this day.”

**Note:** Ruth finds redemption as she rests

1. **She LAY at his feet** - A picture of Ruth resting. Ruth finds the offer of redemption and favour as she laid at her redeemer's feet.
  - a. Laying at his feet, is a picture of RESTING in Him.
  - b. It is a picture of is communion with God.
2. **Naomi told Ruth to SIT STILL** – This is a picture of Ruth resting in her redeemer, as HE BRINGS IT TO PASS.
  - a. Sitting still, is a picture of RESTING in Him.
  - b. Isa 40:30 But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

### Chapter 4 - Ruth inherits - A picture of 2 redeemers.

Ruth 4:3-6 “Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech. So I thought to inform you, saying, ‘Buy it before those who are sitting here, and before the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if not, tell me that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am after you.’” And he said, “I will redeem it.” Then Boaz said, “On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also marry Ruth, the Moabite the widow, in order to carry on her husband’s name and keep the land in the family. The closest relative said, “**I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I destroy my inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption, for I cannot redeem it.**”

Ruth 4:9-10 Then Boaz said to the elders and to the crowd standing around, “You are witnesses that today I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion, and Mahlon. And with the land I have acquired Ruth, the Moabite widow of Mahlon, to be my wife in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance, so that the name of the deceased will not be cut off from his brothers or from the court of his birth place; you are witnesses today.”

**Note:**

- **The 1<sup>st</sup> redeemer** - who's inheritance would've been destroyed by Ruth, was reluctant and unable to perform the redemption. (The law)
- **The 2<sup>nd</sup> redeemer** – who's inheritance would've been destroyed by Ruth, counted it not a loss to split up his inheritance with her, and was both WILLING and ABLE, to redeem her. (Jesus)
  - Heb 12:2 Jesus... who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, disregarding the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
- What the law could not do (represented by the 1<sup>st</sup> redeemer, the closest relative), Jesus Christ did (represented by the 2<sup>nd</sup> redeemer, Boaz).
- Rom 8:3 For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God did: sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and as an offering for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,
- 4:15 A Redeemer - is a restorer of life and sustainer of old age.

**Parallel between Boaz and Jesus Christ our Kinsmen Redeemer:** Why is Jesus our Kinsman Redeemer? Because He came as one of us, as our kind. And through His death, He represented all of us; as the Son of Man.

**Jesus's desire for us today:**

1. Chapter 1 - I want to be your **Source**. (*Ruth decides to make the God of Israel her God*)
2. Chapter 2 - I want to bless you **Undeservedly**. (*Ruth sets out to find favour*)
3. Chapter 3 - I want you to **Rest**. (*Ruth finds her redeemer in rest*)
4. Chapter 4 - I want you to walk in all that I've **Redeemed** you from. (*Ruth inherits*)

**When Jesus is your Source:**

Joseph - Prospered

David - Victory over every storm, trial and enemy

Ruth - Found undeserved favour, redemption, and blessings for the things she didn't deserve.