

**Daniel Perrin – L11: Ruth and Esther – Tuesday, June 10: Boaz, as Redeemer**

1. Did Boaz know that by fulfilling his family obligations, his story would be told over 3,000 years later?
  - a. That his marriage would be an example of God's love for the world?
  - b. Normal life becomes the theater for demonstrating Christ
2. In the book of Ruth, Naomi comes to represent the hopeless situation of Israel — destitute of children
  - a. Listen to the description of **Ruth 1:5** – *Then both Mahlon and Chilion also died; so the woman survived her two sons and her husband.*
    - **Ruth 1:11** – *But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Are there still sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands?"*
    - Bitter cry – **Ruth 1:20** – *I went out full, and the LORD has brought me home again empty.*
  - b. There is no heir to support her as she is alone
    - Even more: no continuing of the family name
    - No one left to preserve the family heritage on the land and declare what God has done through *THIS* family
      - Naomi's situation is OUR situation
      - We're coming to a spiritual dead-end
3. **Ruth 2:20** introduces a concept that is developed through the Bible
  - a. Ruth has been gleaning in Boaz's field and reports that to Naomi
  - b. **2:20** – *Then Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "Blessed be he of the LORD, who has not forsaken His kindness to the living and the dead!" And Naomi said to her, "This man is a relation of ours, one of our close relatives."*
  - c. Go'el – Kinsman / Near Relative
    - The Go'el ACTS OUT the part of the Near Kinsman (close family member)
    - The word is based on the word "to redeem"
  - d. In the Law of Moses, a close relative had responsibilities AND rights due to their relationship
    - For example: Buy back what his poor brother had sold to pay a debt and couldn't get it back (Leviticus 25:25-26)
    - Receive restitution that was owed to his kinsman (Numbers 5:8)
    - Avenge the wrongful death of his kinsman — unless the safety of the City of Refuge prevented him from doing so (Numbers 35)
    - The go-el fought for justice for his family
      - **Proverbs 23:11** – *For their Redeemer is mighty; He will plead their cause against you.*
  - e. One main purpose: preserve the heritage of a family — their LAND (given by God) and their FAMILY line
    - In human families, there was Not just ONE, but a pool of Near Kinsmen
4. Notice that a tragic crisis raises the need for the Kinsman Redeemer to step into action
  - a. This is why that term - Go'el is a reference to God's work
    - Sin is a tragic crisis for us, isn't it?
      - So we need a Kinsman Redeemer – Go'el
    - In **Genesis 48:16**, Jacob says God has REDEEMED him from evil
    - **Job 19:25** calls God his Go'el Redeemer who will return to restore what he had lost
    - In **Psalms 19:14**, David calls God, "my Strength and my Redeemer (Go'el)"
    - **Isaiah** uses Go'el in reference to God 13 times (41:14, 43:14, 44:6, 47:4, 48:17, 49:26, 60:16, 54:5, 54:8, 63:16)
  - b. When the word is translated into Greek, it is replaced with three words meaning "ransom"
    - These Greek words especially applies to Christ

- **Matthew 20:28** – *just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*” (also Titus 2:14, Rom. 7:24, Gal. 1:4, Col. 1:13, 1 Thes. 1:10)
  - Jesus is our Near Kinsman — having become ONE OF us.
    - **Hebrews 2:11** – *...for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren...*
5. Picking up the story in **Ruth 3:8–9** – *Now it happened at midnight that the man was startled, and turned himself; and there, a woman was lying at his feet. <sup>9</sup>And he said, “Who are you?” So she answered, “I am Ruth, your maidservant. Take your maidservant under your wing, for you are a close relative.”*
    - a. Ruth proposes marriage so that Boaz will fulfill the duties of Near Kinsman – to preserve the Family Line
      - This means marrying her
    - b. Boaz is willing — but he is familiar with the family and introduces a surprise
      - **Ruth 3:12** – *Now it is true that I am a close relative; however, there is a relative closer than I.*
      - This reminds us that sin has been welcomed as a closer relative, but its first-claim must be removed.
  6. Boaz promises to carry out his part in **3:13** – He tells her to wait and he will deal with the closer relative
    - a. Naomi praises him for following through in **3:18** – *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.”*
    - b. In **chapter 4:1-12** – Boaz legally acquires the redemption rights for himself.
    - c. This is a representation of Jesus who takes care of our PRIOR CLAIM – Publicly
      - He will not rest until He has concluded the matter
      - He pays the price of redemption
      - Taking us FULLY AS HIS / taking all our debts / welcoming us into His family with His name
      - Sharing his full inheritance with us (that was the issue with the other Kinsman, he didn’t want to share the inheritance — that’s the selfishness that we don’t find in Jesus)
      - And He legally frees us from the claim of sin
  7. The redemption brought about by Boaz guarantees the continuation of Elimelech’s family
    - a. This was NOT possible in human power alone – there had to be a Kinsman Redeemer
    - b. AND provides support for Naomi in her old Age
    - c. In **4:13** *“...the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son.”*
      - And in **4:14** All praise and honor goes to God for the Go’el and for the blessing He brings about through Ruth — a son who will support her in her old age
      - God’s hand of guidance was behind everything in the book of Ruth
      - To bring about THIS marriage, which ultimately led to the REDEEMER OF THE WORLD
    - d. When the Go’el was introduced in **2:20**, it was connected with God’s *HESED* – His loving-kindness
  8. The book of Ruth reminds us that Marriage is an illustration
    - a. **Jeremiah 3:14** – *“Return, O backsliding children,” says the LORD; “for I am married to you.”*
    - b. A Christian Marriage is a LIVING visual aid to the world
      - A Christian husband and wife who submit their will to God ... their marriage will look different, with different outcomes.