

May His Name Be Famous in Israel (Ruth 4)
Running thru Ruth: Message #5

Grace Chapel

Dr. John Niemelä

Junly 1, 2007

INTRODUCTION

REVIEW

- (1:1–5) While the judges ruled, an Ephrathite family of Bethlehem (Elimelech, Naomi, Mahlon, and Chilion) went to the plains of Moab to escape a food shortage, Elimelech died, Mahlon & Chilion died childless after 10 years of marriage to Moabitesses**
- (1:6–10) Naomi plans to go to Judah alone, wishing God’s blessing on them**
- (1:11–14) Naomi urges Orpah/Ruth to return to Moab, because she is past childbearing; Orpah reluctantly obeyed, but Ruth clung to Naomi**
- (1:15–18) Naomi’s peer pressure, but Ruth’s oath caused her to cease**
- (1:19–22) Naomi and Ruth return & are welcomed, but Naomi is bitter**
- (2:1–3) Ruth sought to glean in the field of one who would allow her and *happened* to find the field of Boaz, a close righteous relative of Elimelech**
- (2:4–7) Boaz came & extended the Lord’s greeting to the workers; his foreman said that Ruth was the Moabitess who returned w/ Naomi and that she has diligently gleaned after asking permission**
- (2:8–13) Boaz urged Ruth to remain in his protection; she remarked about his grace to her as a foreigner; he spoke of her selflessness towards Naomi and wished for the Lord to reward her**
- (2:14–16) Boaz asked her to join the crew for lunch; she was filled; Boaz commanded the workers to remarkable generosity toward Ruth**
- (2:17–23) Ruth winnowed about 30 lbs. of barley & carried it to their place and gave Naomi leftovers from lunch; Ruth said Boaz is who was so generous; (he did not forget covenant loyalty) so Ruth accepted his protection and *planned* to glean thru barley & wheat harvests**
- (3:1–5) Naomi plans to seek security for Ruth by contacting Boaz: Ruth agrees to wait until Boaz was asleep before uncovering his feet**
- (3:6–14) Ruth obeyed the plan; Boaz awoke & was shocked to see her; she discretely asked him for protection, because he was Elimelech’s close relative; he commends Ruth’s covenant loyalty & pledges that Ruth will become legally secure; she stayed until just before dawn and was told not to mention coming to the threshing floor**
- (3:15) Boaz gave her grain to take to Naomi; she told Naomi all that had happened, including that Boaz would not send her empty-handed; Naomi urged Ruth to be content, knowing that Boaz would insure that she would become legally secure**

NEW EXPOSITION

4:1–6 *Peloni Almoni refuses to enter into Levirate marriage with Ruth*

(4:1–2) Boaz went to the city gate and Peloni Almoni also came and sat; then Boaz called ten elders to join them

(4:3) Boaz informed Peloni Almoni that Naomi was selling (the right to redeem) Elimelech's land

If Naomi sold Elimelech's land (4:3), how would Peloni Almoni buy it from her (4:5)?

Lev 25²³The land shall not be sold permanently, for the land is Mine; for you are strangers and sojourners with Me. ²⁴And in all the land of your possession you shall grant redemption of the land. ²⁵If one of your brethren becomes poor, and has sold some of his possession, and if his redeeming relative comes to redeem it, then he may redeem what his brother sold. ²⁶Or if the man has no one to redeem it, but he himself becomes able to redeem it, ²⁷then let him count the years since its sale, and restore the remainder to the man to whom he sold it, that he may return to his possession. ²⁸But if he is not able to have it restored to himself, then what was sold shall remain in the hand of him who bought it until the Year of Jubilee; and in the Jubilee it shall be released, and he shall return to his possession.

(4:4) Boaz urged Peloni Almoni to redeem the land, but said that he would do so himself (if Peloni Almoni refused); Peloni Almoni accepted

(4:5) Boaz indicated that Ruth also possessed inheritance rights, so redeeming the land also involved perpetuating Mahlon's line (Levirate marriage)

(4:6) Peloni Almoni refused to redeem the land and to enter into Levirate marriage with Ruth, because of his own inheritance

4:7–12 Boaz commits himself before the elders to enter into Levirate marriage with Ruth

(4:7–8) Piloni Almoni told Boaz to redeem the land and confirmed the deal by giving his sandal to Boaz

(4:9–10) Boaz attested before the elders that he was redeeming Elimelech's land and would enter into Levirate marriage with Ruth

(4:11–12) The elders affirmed that they witnessed Boaz's action and wished for the Lord to bless them with a dynasty through the son that would be born

4:13–17 Boaz and Ruth have a son who becomes Naomi's redeemer

(4:13) Boaz entered into Levirate marriage with Ruth and had a son

Contrary to popular opinion, the Hebrew in verses such as this is discrete, not graphic

(4:14) The women told Naomi that the Lord did not leave her without a kinsman redeemer (her grandson)

(4:15) Women spoke of the grandson loving Naomi in her latter years as Ruth loved her

(4:16–17) Naomi held her grandson and the women observed that Naomi again had a son (the ancestor of David)

(4:18–22) Boaz and Ruth were ancestors of David in the dynasty of Perez

CONCLUSION