

THE BIGGER PICTURE

“The Upper Side of the Tapestry”

Ruth 4:1-22

Boaz is a great example of the importance of doing the right thing.

Ruth 4:3-4

³Then he said to the redeemer, “Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our relative Elimelech. ⁴So I thought I would tell you of it and say, ‘Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.’ If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you.” And he said, “I will redeem it.”

Ruth 4:5

⁵Then Boaz said, “The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance.”

Ruth 4:6

⁶Then the redeemer said, “I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.”

Ruth 4:7-8

⁷Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, the one drew off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was the manner of

attesting in Israel. ⁸So when the redeemer said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself," he drew off his sandal.

Deuteronomy 25:8-9, "Then his brother's wife shall go up to him in the presence of the elders and pull his sandal off his foot and spit in his face. And she shall answer and say, "So shall it be done to the man who does not build up this brother's house."

Ruth 4:9-10

⁹Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon. ¹⁰Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day."

Ruth 4:17b, "They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David."

The Upper side of the Tapestry

- I. Be assured: God will not abandon you**

- II. Be reminded: God is involved in the details of your life**

- III. Be encouraged: God is plotting a course for your joy and fulfillment**

John Piper – “The life of the godly is not a straight line to glory, but they do get there. The life of the godly is not an interstate through Nebraska but a state road through the Blue Ridge Mountains of Tennessee. There are rockslides and precipices and dark mists and bears and slippery curves and hairpin turns that make you go backward in order to go forward. But all along this hazardous, twisted road that doesn’t let you see very far ahead, there are frequent signs that say, “The best is yet to come.”

[David on this quote let’s put it full screen and don’t show me reading it just hear me reading it. See how that looks. If Ethan disagrees, I go with his opinion.]

IV. Be motivated: God accomplishes extraordinary things through ordinary people

V. Be aware: God weaves your tapestry to have generational impact