

Things are about to change for Naomi and Ruth as Boaz steps up and makes himself known as the kinsman redeemer to acquire Ruth as wife

1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there, and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz spoke was passing by, so he said, "Turn aside, friend, sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down. 2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down. 3 Then he said to the closest relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the land of Moab, has to sell the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech. 4 "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."

City gate, not like we imagine but laid out in a T w/ rooms, sitting areas place of socializing & business conducted, legal transactions--like a town hall. City elders sit talk over affairs of the day.

Boaz on look out for his next of kin, brother? Recruits 10 city leaders & makes his case--**do you want to redeem the land?** Naomi is poor & has no other source of income, too feeble to work the land to make it produce, so she must sell the family plot of land in order to survive. To the nearest kinsman it sounds good, can't pass up a deal like this.

Everything was in place to seal the deal & make the transaction but then Boaz drops a bombshell, aware that his brother was married so...

5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also acquire Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of the deceased, in order to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance."

If you want the field you must marry the woman. You must marry Mahlon's widow & raise up offspring to his name. So the name of the deceased not die out & land not transfer to another tribe. Obligation if marry is first born to get name of deceased to perpetuate his name. 10 witnesses were for this purpose of validation, to substantiate the transaction. 10 is number of witness **(complete)** 10 virgins; 10 talents; Jacob said to Laban you have changed by wages 10 times (completely changed)

6 And the closest relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I jeopardize my own inheritance. Redeem it for yourself; you may have my right of redemption, for I cannot redeem it." 7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the redemption and the exchange of land to confirm any matter: a man removed his sandal and gave it to another; and this was the manner of attestation in Israel. 8 So the closest relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." And he removed his sandal.

I'm sure Boaz knew the wife of his brother would never let him get away w/ having another woman in the home. Interesting ancient custom based on Mosaic Law **Dt 25:7-10** So the man would leave the gate of the city minus one sandal as he hobbled home, one foot, barefoot—townsfolk recognize him as a man who would not build up his brother's house'. Good for his wife. Yet in this case it was a good thing as Boaz was next in line, God's choice—no spitting in the face.

Wise choice, the man was not will to jeopardize his own family holdings & his natural offspring by union w/ Ruth & potential offspring from her. Plus his wife not really excited about proposition. Door open to Boaz to redeem.

*9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses today that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and Mahlon. 10 "Moreover, I have acquired Ruth the Moabite, the 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 may not be cut off from his brothers or from the court of his birth place; you are witnesses today." 11 And all the people who were in the court, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel; and may you achieve **wealth** in Ephrathah and become **famous** in Bethlehem. 12 "Moreover, may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah, through the offspring which the LORD shall give you by this young woman."*

Boaz openly declares his intent & love for Ruth. Showing the high value he places on Ruth & unashamedly doing all that was needed to gain her for himself. The whole of the book of Ruth led up to this moment of redemption

Matt 13:44 “The kingdom of heaven is like a **treasure** hidden in the field, which a man found and hid; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field. **45** “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine **pearls**, **46** and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

He sells all, gives His best to gain the treasure & the pearl—God gave the most precious gift He had, His son Jesus Christ to redeem what was in the field & to buy the pearl—which is us. **Jn 3:16** His love is what draws us & what is attractive in Boaz in drawing Ruth.

Like Rachael & Leah--900 years earlier referring to 12 sons of Jacob. **Wealth & famous Micah 5:2** *But as for you Bethlehem, Ephrathah, too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you one will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity.* A prophecy of messiah coming from Bethlehem, Ephrathah(**ancient name**).

Gen 38 Tamar widow-Er, Onan- Judah w/held Shelah so she took matters into her own hands, posed as prostitute, Judah had relations Perez born, first born of twins by Tamar who became main ancestor of Ephrathites and Bethlehemites. Judah declared ‘she is more righteous than I’ :26

13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife, and he went in to her. And the LORD enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son. **14** Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed is the LORD who has not left you without a redeemer today, and may his name become famous in Israel. **15** “May he also be to you a restorer of life and a sustainer of your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you and is better to you than seven sons, has given birth to him.”

Obed was the son--ordained & destined to be great in lineage of David. Obed Davids grandfather & in line of messiah--blessing to Boaz & Ruth. And restorer of life to Naomi, grandmother informally adopted as her son-foster mother.

16 Then Naomi took the child and laid him in her lap, and became his nurse. 17 And the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi!" So they named him Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David. 18 Now these are the generations of Perez: to Perez was born Hezron, 19 and to Hezron was born Ram, and to Ram, Amminadab, 20 and to Amminadab was born Nahshon, and to Nahshon, Salmon, 21 and to Salmon was born Boaz, and to Boaz, Obed, 22 and to Obed was born Jesse, and to Jesse, David.

We see the turn of events for Naomi whose testimony was bitterness on her return to Bethlehem. Assuming God had made her life miserable but in reality God was working the miraculous and bringing blessings beyond her wildest dreams. When we don't have God's complete picture for our life we, like Naomi can become bitter. But instead, as we fix our eyes on Jesus the author and finisher of our faith *Is 26:3 God will keep us in perfect peace because we trust in Him.*

Amminadab brother-in-law of Aaron; *Salmon*, husband of Rahab the harlot whose son is Boaz--- We see that Ruth is King David's great grandmother & Naomi his great, great grandmother. But more than that it places them in the Genealogy of Messiah Matt 1:1-5. Young girls grew up w/ the wish that they might give birth to the Messiah.

Matt 1:1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. 2 To Abraham was born Isaac; and to Isaac, Jacob; and to Jacob, Judah and his brothers; 3 and to Judah were born Perez and Zerah by Tamar; and to Perez was born Hezron; and to Hezron, Ram; 4 and to Ram was born Amminadab; and to Amminadab, Nahshon; and to Nahshon, Salmon; 5 and to Salmon was born Boaz by Rahab; and to Boaz was born Obed by Ruth; and to Obed, Jesse; 6 and to Jesse was born David the king.

The book ends like a fairy tale w/ *'they lived happily ever after'* but it's a true story reaching our lives--Jesus is our kinsman redeemer we are His Gentile bride. If you like Naomi can't see beyond the tears of a bitter life remember our redeemer lives & wipes all tears away. Read pg 96 of book