

Pastor Brad Howard - February 5th, 2023
Ruth & Boaz

Psalms 107:1-2 NIV

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story— those he redeemed from the hand of the foe.

Psalms 107:2 NLT

Has the LORD redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others He has redeemed you from your enemies.

ga'al - to redeem, that is, to be the next of kin (and as such to buy back a relative's property, marry his widow, etc.): - avenger, protector, deliverer, redeemer, family guardian.

- It has a happy ending.
- It starts with a funeral and ends with a wedding.
- It starts with a famine and ends with a feast.
- It starts with weeping but ends with joy.
- It's an epic love story.

1. THE STORY BEGINS WITH A BAD MOVE.

Ruth 1:1 NLT

In the days when the judges ruled in Israel, a severe famine came upon the land. So a man from Bethlehem in Judah left his home and went to live in the country of Moab, taking his wife and two sons with him.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 NIV

This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life . . .

- We often have our priorities are out of order.
- We love things and try to use God rather than loving God and using things.
- God will not work in second place.
- We dishonor God when we move into the enemy's territory.

2. RUTH MADE A RIGHT MOVE THAT BROUGHT REDEMPTION TO HER LIFE, AND OTHERS.

Ruth 1:16 NLT

But Ruth replied (to her mother-in-law Naomi), "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."

Ruth 2:3, 20 NLT

So Ruth went out to gather grain behind the harvesters. And as it happened, she found herself working in a field that belonged to Boaz, the relative of her father-in-law, Elimelech. Naomi responded, "That man is one of our closest relatives, one of our family redeemers."

- BOAZ is a picture of Christ.
- RUTH is a picture of His Church.

Ruth's decision to go to Bethlehem with Naomi changed the course of her life, and our lives as well.

- Boaz married Ruth
- They named their first baby Obed
- Obed was the father of Jesse
- Jesse was the father of David
- David is in the family line of Jesus

3. GOD CAN REDEEM YOUR LIFE FROM DESTRUCTION AND CREATE A RIPPLE EFFECT OF BLESSING.

Psalms 103:4-5 NKJV

Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalms 130:7-8 NLT

O Israel, hope in the LORD; for with the LORD there is unfailing love. His redemption overflows. He Himself will redeem Israel from every kind of sin.

1 Peter 2:25 NLT

Once you were like sheep who wandered away. But now you have turned to your Shepherd, the Guardian of your souls.

Acts 16:30-31 NLT

Then he brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household."