

“The Bible is Not Ruthless” Ruth 4:13-21

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¹⁸ Now this *is* the genealogy of Perez: Perez begot Hezron; ¹⁹ Hezron begot Ram, and Ram begot Amminadab; ²⁰ Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon; ²¹ Salmon begot Boaz, and Boaz begot Obed; ²² Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David. Ruth 4:13–22 (NKJV)

[Ruthless means having no pity or compassion](#)

The Bible is full of pity and compassion! It is God’s Book for lost and hurting souls!

But I mean also it is not Ruth – Less because there is a Book about a woman named Ruth in it!

A simple woman, a humble woman, a gentle woman, a godly woman!

There are no dramatic miracles recorded in Ruth’s book!

*Ruth endures trial but stays faithful... and God gives her, an ordinary woman,
A happy ending!*

Her story even made it into the Bible!

1. She stuck with Naomi amid trials –

²⁰ But she said to them, “Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. Ruth 1:20 (NKJV)

1. As far as God’s providence goes, sometimes He bounces us on His knee, but at other times we feel under His foot –

¹⁴ In the day of prosperity be joyful, But in the day of adversity consider: Surely God has appointed the one as well as the other,... Ecclesiastes 7:14 A (NKJV)

2. In a sin filled land, expect the WORST –

1 Now it came to pass, in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the land. ... Ruth 1:1 A (NKJV)

⁶ In those days *there was* no king in Israel; everyone did *what was* right in his own eyes. Judges 17:6 (NKJV)

3. The WORST came to Naomi & Ruth (and Ruth’s sister) –

³ Then Elimelech, Naomi’s husband, died;... Ruth 1:3 A (NKJV)

A. Naomi’s two sons took wives –

Mahlon (Sickly) married Orpah...

Chilion (Pining) married Ruth ...

B. Both men died leaving the three women alone!

4. Worldly, common sense would say the young women should look for husbands in Moab, and Naomi is ready to let them go, she was not a selfish woman –

⁸ And Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go, return each to her mother’s house. The LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹ The LORD grant that you may find rest, each in the house of her husband.” So she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. Ruth 1:8–9 (NKJV)

5. But Ruth, walking by faith, not by sight, unselfishly also, sticks with her mother-in-law / and God, amidst the TRIALS -

**¹⁶ But Ruth said: “Entreat me not to leave you, *Or to turn back from following after you; For wherever you go, I will go; And wherever you lodge, I will lodge; Your people shall be my people, And your God, my God.* ¹⁷ Where you die, I will die, And there will I be buried. The LORD do so to me, and more also, *If anything but death parts you and me.*”
Ruth 1:16–17 (NKJV)**

- A. *Ruth is committed to Naomi.*
- B. *Ruth is committed to God, she is faithful.*
- C. *Note this is noticed by God, it qualified Ruth for an honored place in Scripture, the line of David and the line of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

II. She counted Boaz kindness as God’s smile –

2 There was a relative of Naomi’s husband, a man of great wealth, of the family of Elimelech. His name was Boaz. ² So Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, “Please let me go to the field, and glean heads of grain after *him* in whose sight I may find favor.” And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.” Ruth 2:1–2 (NKJV)

- 1. *She went to “glean” his field, that means she could take the food (grain) that the harvesters dropped.*
- 2. *Boaz had been told good things about Ruth and was determined to be a blessing to her –*

¹¹ And Boaz answered and said to her, “It has been fully reported to me, all that you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband, and *how* you have left your father and your mother and the land of your birth, and have come to a people whom you did not know before. ¹² The LORD repay your work, and a full reward be given you by the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings you have come for refuge.” Ruth 2:11–12 (NKJV)

- 3. *Ruth’s response is humble and beautiful*

**¹³ Then she said, “Let me find favor in your sight, my lord; for you have comforted me, and have spoken kindly to your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants.”
Ruth 2:13 (NKJV)**

- A. *Ruth was seeing and treating Boaz with great respect, as her superior.*
- B. *She was happy / blessed because he was treating her like his own **your maidservant, though I am not like one of your maidservants.***

Like almost family rather than like a strange woman from a strange land.

- 4. *When she tells Naomi, Naomi also see this as God's blessing –*

¹⁹ And her mother-in-law said to her, “Where have you gleaned today? And where did you work? Blessed be the one who took notice of you.”

So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked, and said, “The man’s name with whom I worked today *is* Boaz.”

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.”

²¹ Ruth the Moabitess said, “He also said to me, ‘You shall stay close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.’ ”

²² And Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, “*It is good*, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, and that people do not meet you in any other field.” ²³ So she stayed close by the young women of Boaz, to glean until the end of barley harvest and wheat harvest; and she dwelt with her mother-in-law. Ruth 2:19–23 (NKJV)

III. Boldly, Ruth aims to marry Boaz –

- 1. *According to Naomi's instruction Ruth proposes marriage to Boaz -*

⁶ So she went down to the threshing floor and did according to all that her mother-in-law instructed her. ⁷ And after Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was cheerful, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain; and she came softly, uncovered his feet, and lay down. ⁸ Now it happened at midnight that the man was startled, and turned himself; and there, a woman was lying at his feet. ⁹ 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.” Ruth 3:6–9 (NKJV)

A. *Not on her knees, like men do today, but lying at his FEET, expressing extreme humility!*

B. *Though she was a Moabitess / Now, with help from Naomi, she counts herself a close relative -*

... Take your maidservant under your wing, for you are a close relative.” Ruth 3:6–9 (NKJV)

2. At this point it is Boaz’ turn to be humble -

¹⁰ Then he said, “Blessed are you of the LORD, my daughter! For you have shown more kindness at the end than at the beginning, in that you did not go after young men, whether poor or rich. ¹¹ And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you request, for all the people of my town know that you are a virtuous woman. Ruth 3:10–11 (NKJV)

A. *It seems Boaz is quite a bit older than Ruth –*

- *He calls her “my daughter”*
- *Also, he mentions kindness to himself, because she did not go after “young men” whether poor or rich.*

B. *What he says implies he thought of her as a WOMAN who could have any man she wanted, and he is HUMBLED that she chose him ...*

C. *Both are humbled by the other’s love and God’s goodness in bringing about this relationship!*

D. *Boaz sees in Ruth what Ruth maybe did not realize herself, because humble, for all the people of my town know that you are a virtuous woman. Ruth 3:10–11 (NKJV)*

IV. They get married but there is MORE, we’ve only just begun...

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this day without a close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel! ¹⁵ And may he be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has borne him.” ¹⁶ Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her bosom, and became a nurse to him. ¹⁷ Also the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, “There is a son born to Naomi.” And they called his name Obed. He *is* the father of Jesse, the father of David.

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1. *Naomi is blessed –*

A. *In the midst of trying times God takes care of His people!*

B. *Naomi is blessed by a gentile daughter-in-law more than SEVEN SONS –*
Ruth 4:15

C. *Naomi is blessed by a grandson nicknamed Obed –*

¹⁷ **Also the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, “There is a son born to Naomi.” And they called his name Obed. He *is* the father of Jesse, the father of David.**

- *Note the neighbor woman say, a son is born to Naomi!*
- *The neighbor women nickname this boy “servant.”*
- *In context the idea is he becomes Naomi’s servant / he loves Naomi like Ruth loved “Naomi” and made Naomi’s old age, the TIME of HER LIFE!*

2. *Not only THAT ...*

²² **Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David. Ruth 4:22 (NKJV)**

A. *David was the King whom God chose –*

B. David was a man after God's own heart –

²² And when He had removed him, He raised up for them David as king, to whom also He gave testimony and said, 'I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart, who will do all My will.'

²³ From this man's seed, according to the promise, God raised up for Israel a Savior—Jesus— Acts 13:22–23 (NKJV)

C. David was a King who acknowledged not only Israel, but the "nations" as under God's rule and care –

A Song. A Psalm of David. ¹ O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory. ² Awake, lute and harp! I will awaken the dawn. ³ I will praise You, O LORD, among the peoples, And I will sing praises to You among the nations. ⁴ For Your mercy is great above the heavens, And Your truth reaches to the clouds. Psalm 108:1–4 (NKJV)

D. See Ruth's walk by FAITH, not by sight character one she seems to pass to David –

⁷ Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God. Psalm 20:7 (NKJV)

3. See Ruth as an example –

A. Of devotion to God and family

B. Of humility and grace

C. Of how to pick a husband (a second husband)

D. Of raising children to love grandma (grandparents)

4. See Boaz as a type of Christ, a kinsman redeemer

A. A humble loving husband

B. a son who provided ...

C. A good, godly moral man –

5. See also the blessing of the neighbor women –

¹⁴ Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel! Ruth 4:14