

## **Ruth 2,3,4**

### **BOAZ: GODLY REDEEMER, HUSBAND, FATHER**

- I. The godly man (and women).
  - A. A prodigal daughter (Naomi) left her spiritual Father's house and lived for ten years in Moab under her Father's chastening.
    - 1. Like the prodigal son, she returned acknowledging her sin and her heavenly Father's faithful chastening of her (1:21).
    - 2. Bitterness over sin leads to the wondrous joy of God's mercy (Ps. 86:5,15; 103:8), evidenced in the material provision.
  - B. Boaz (strength or quickness) was obviously a man of faith.
  - C. Boaz recognized virtues of a child of God in Ruth.
    - 1. Her care for her mother-in-law, her humility; her industry, and in her trust in God's providence to lead her.
    - 2. Boaz evidenced his faith.
- II. The plea for redemption.
  - A. Boaz praised Ruth for her virtue (3:11) and promised to redeem the Elimelech's land if the nearer kinsman would not (12,13).
    - 1. He spread his skirt over her (as a symbolic pledge of marriage, 3:9), apparently anticipating the nearer kin would not.
    - 2. He redeemed Elimelech's property taking the responsibility to take Ruth in marriage, giving Mahlon a son (Deut. 25:5-10).
    - 3. Naomi's advice to Ruth to lie at the feet of Boaz (3:4) was not improper, for the widow of a deceased and childless man was free to press her claim for marriage to her kinsman publicly before the elders of the city (Deut. 25:7).
  - B. The next day Boaz went to the gate of the city to represent the cause of Ruth (Naomi and Elimelech) to the city's elders (4:1).
- III. Lessons.
  - A. Note that "Jehovah gave her conception" (4:13). We may not presume conception, but must know that it is truly a gift
  - B. Ruth is honored to be included in Christ's genealogy (Matt. 1:5) which corresponds with what women say to Naomi (4:15).
  - C. Jesus Christ came and took His church to Himself as His bride, knowing that it means a great sacrifice on His part.