

Redeemed

Redemption & Rescue
Ruth 4:1-12
August 30, 2015

“Also 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...” -**Ruth 4:10**

I. INTRODUCING... MR. SO AND SO

- Boaz goes to the town gate, where business and law is practiced, in order to fulfill his promise to Ruth (2:13; Deut. 21:19, 22:15, 25:7; Josh. 20:4; Prov. 31:23).
- The other redeemer Boaz mentioned “happens” to come by. Once again, a sovereign God is acting providentially (vs. 1).
- The other redeemer is not named, a sure sign that his character is faulty. He will not honor the covenant and place himself at risk, therefore he will remain without name (Deut 9:14; 29:20; Ps. 9:5, 109:13; Rev. 3:5).

II. THE REDEMPTION

- Boaz presents the case, but does so in a way that seems to indicate he wants the marriage to a Moabite to be a factor that will dissuade the first redeemer (vss. 3-5).
- The land of Naomi is not actually for sale, only the use of the land until the next Jubilee (Lev. 25:23-28).
- The Mosaic Law does not demand that Ruth be wed, but the spirit of the law certainly does (Deut. 25:5-10).
- Mr. So and So will not redeem. He wants the land, but not the trouble of a Moabite wife and her progeny. He will not perpetuate the name of Elimelech and Mahlon at cost to himself (Deut. 25:5-10).
- Boaz again proves himself worthy. He will have the honor of perpetuating the line of David and Jesus (4:18-22; Matt. 1:5-6).

III. A CUNNING PLAN OF REDEMPTION

- Redemption was procured for Naomi and Ruth by the exchange of a sandal. Our redemption cost Jesus His life (Eph. 1:7-14).
- As Boaz used cunning, so did God. Satan was disarmed at the cross. Victory was snatched from defeat (1 Cor. 2:7-9; Col. 2).

KNOW: God used a bold plan, cunning and strategic, to bring about our redemption and rescue.

DO: Live out the blessing of your salvation.

Suggested Reading:

Redemption Accomplished and Applied, by John Murray

Grandpa's Box: Retelling the Story of Redemption, by Starr Meade

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read Ruth 4:1-12

1. What have you learned from the book of Ruth concerning care for the outcast? Kindness in God's name? Faithfulness to God as demonstrated in good behavior?
2. Ruth and Boaz married for more than just romance. What might that teach us about marriage today for modern Christians and God's overarching purpose in marriage?
3. What does a “Mr. So and So” look like today in our culture? How do we at times, as followers of Christ, behave like him without incurring disfavor among our church family? In other words, what are our respectable sins?
4. Why, do you think, does the Bible show all the foibles of the characters who are faithful to God? Naomi wasn't perfect, and the family line of Jesus has sinners in it. Why?
5. What steps can we take to improve our moral character and, in doing so, our witness for Christ and His church?