

“As the LORD Lives, I Will Redeem You”

Ruth 3

- A. The story of Ruth began with providence of God that seemed very bitter (1:20).
- B. In *Ruth 2*, the favor of God was breaking through bright enough for even Naomi to see.
 - 1. Boaz is a God-respecting man in his business and personal relationships (2:4, 11-12a).
 - 2. Ruth is a God-dependent woman finding refuge beneath the wings of God (2:12b).
 - 3. Naomi is growing to once again be a God-exalting woman who recognizes the blessings of God.

I. Naomi's Strategic _____ (*Ruth 3:1-5*)

- A. People who feel like victims rarely make plans. As long as Naomi was blinded by hopelessness and bitterness, as long as she would only say, “*the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me,*” she conceived no strategy for the future.
 - 1. Naomi's aim is clear: win a husband and secure future for Ruth, and preserve the family line.
 - 2. Everyone, including Ruth, must respond by thinking, “And where do you think that will lead?”
- B. It's clear what Naomi is trying to engineer, it's not clear why she would go about it like this.

II. Ruth's Strategic _____ (*Ruth 3:6-9*)

- A. “*I am Ruth, your servant*” (3:9).
 - 1. “*Spread your wings over your servant*” -- a literal translation that connects with *Ruth 2:12*.
 - 2. “*For you are a redeemer*” -- “the one who can redeem our inheritance (*Lev 25:23-25*) and our family name (*Deut 25:5-6*) from being lost. I want you to fill that role; I want to be your wife.”
- B. A middle-aged man is interested in a young widow whom he discreetly and graciously shows kindness. The young widow gradually reads between the lines and finally risks an interpretation by coming in the middle of the night to take refuge under his wing as a redeemer.

III. Boaz's Strategic _____ (*Ruth 3:10-18*)

- A. Why was Boaz “*a worthy man*” (2:1)?
 - 1. He was a man of physical _____.
 - 2. He was a man of patient _____.
- B. “*If he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the LORD lives, I will redeem you.*”

Vital concluding takeaways:

- There are _____ of deep, selfless, righteous love--better models than politicians and celebrities.

- God expects us to learn how to _____ our own bodies in holiness and honor (*1 Thes 4:3-8*).

- Forgiveness and cleansing are available in the _____ of Ruth and Boaz (*1 Cor 6:9-11*).