

## HEROES: THE LOVING AND GREAT REDEEMER

### SERMON OUTLINE

<sup>5</sup> Then Boaz said, "The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance." <sup>6</sup> Then the redeemer said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it" ... <sup>9</sup> Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon. <sup>10</sup> Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, (Ruth 4:5-6, 9-10a)

#### 1. Crazy decision: The journey to faith.

The Moabites oppressed Israel for 18 years during the time of the judges. So Ruth was putting her life in danger by returning with her mother-in-law to Bethlehem!

*"Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. <sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." <sup>18</sup> And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more" (Ruth 1:16-18a).*

#### How does this point us to Christ?

Ruth is a type of church/Christians. God rewarded Ruth for her decision to follow him—the true God! In the same vein, Jesus says to us

*"And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake, will receive a hundred times more and will be given eternal life" (Matt. 19:29).*

*"anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).*

#### 2. The loving and great Redeemer

Boaz loved, cared, prayed blessed and honored Ruth at first sight—even as a stranger—and a Moabite!

#### How does this point to Christ?

Boaz is a type of Christ.

a. "And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I" (Ruth 3:12). Cf. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them" (Matt. 5:17).

b. "Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there" (Ruth 4:1). Cf. "And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood" (Hebrews 13:12).

c. "<sup>6</sup> Then the redeemer said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it" ... <sup>9</sup> Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon. <sup>10</sup> Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife," (Ruth 4:6-10). Cf. "You were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies" (1 Cor. 6:20); "You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of human beings" (1 Cor. 7:23).

d. Hebrews 9:11-14; Revelation 5:1-10.

#### Conclusion:

Ruth the Moabite listed in Matthew's gospel as the great grandmother of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world!

*For your Sabbath ruminating*

Consider today's message, take time to meditate on the words of the following hymn (or even sing it) and reflect on

- The depth of Christ the Redeemer's love for humanity, especially you.
- Your faith journey *with* and *in* Christ—how you came to know him and be thankful.
- Naomi's love for God aroused Ruth's hunger for God. Ruth said, "and your God shall be my God." When people look at your life, do you think they say, "I want his God to be my God?"

#### Jesus Paid It All

I hear the Savior say, "Thy strength indeed is small; Child of weakness, watch and pray, Find in Me thine all in all."

*Refrain:*

Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe; sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find Thy pow'r, and Thine alone, can change the leper's spots and melt the heart of stone. *Refrain*

And when before the throne I stand in Him complete, Jesus died my soul to save my lips shall still repeat. *Refrain*

Oh, praise the One who paid my debt; and raises life up from the dead!