

Ruth Chapter 3

- When Ruth asks for protection from her redeemer, she is kind of proposing to Boaz rather than vice-versa.
- According to law, she had the right to request this.

Ruth Chapter 4

- 4:17 Obed = “serving,” which probably tells us as much about Ruth and Naomi as it does about him.
- 4:18-22 Ruth, a Moabite woman, became the great grandmother of King David.
- She ultimately finds her way into Jesus’s genealogy.
- See Matthew 1:5.

Ruth Deeper Understanding

- Genealogy of Jesus – the women who get mentioned by Matthew might all have been marginalized.
 - Rahab a prostitute, was Boaz’s mother
 - Ruth was from Moab, and not long after the events of the book of Numbers.
 - Bathsheba an adulteress, was the mother of King Solomon.
 - Even Christ’s birth could have been called into question.
- Kinsman Redeemer – and parallel to Christ’s work
- By becoming an actual man, Christ put himself in the position to buy us our freedom and pay all our debts.
 - *This poor stranger, Ruth, in coming to put her trust in the God of Israel, was giving up everything; yes, but she was also gaining everything. Ah! when you come to trust in Christ, you find in the Lord Jesus Christ one who is next of kin to you, who redeems your heritage, and unites you to Himself.* C. H. Spurgeon (1834 – 1892)
- God’s heart for the nations – his missionary heart.
 - *The household of Elimelech emigrated to Moab ... as Jehovah worshippers. They were meant to be missionaries, and, in Ruth's case, the purpose was fulfilled. She became the 'first-fruits of the Gentiles'; and one aim of the book, no doubt, is to show how the believing Gentile was to be incorporated into Israel.* Alexander Maclaren (1826 – 1910)

Ruth Relevance to Daily Life

- Faithful individuals within a nation at a spiritual low
- God’s quiet, non-miraculous, work in the background – sometimes called *providence*
- God’s heart for the poor, the outsider, the one who might have reason to be rejected.
- God’s ability to bring about ethnic/racial reconciliation
- God’s ability to turn any situation around