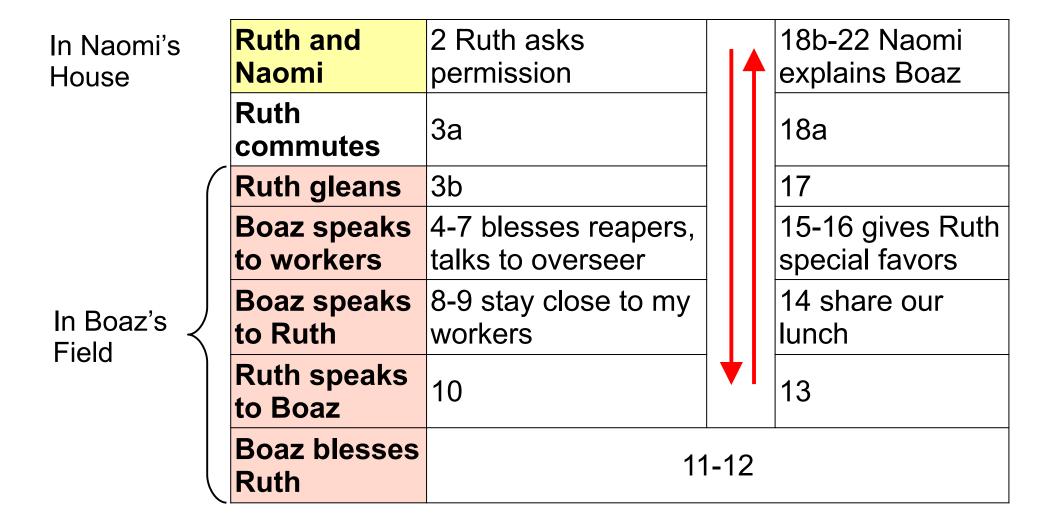
The Book of Ruth

- 1:1-22, Death and Emptiness
- 1-7, End of a family line in Moab
- 8-19a, Dialog on the Road
- 19b-22, Naomi and townswomen (gate)
- 2:1-23, Seeking Short-Term Security
- 1, Introducing Boaz
- 2, Home: Naomi accepts Ruth's Plan
- 3-17, Field: Ruth meets Boaz
- 18-23, Home: Naomi and Ruth debrief
- 3:1-18, Seeking Permanent Security
- 1-5, Home: Ruth accepts Naomi's Plan
- 6-15, Threshing Floor: Ruth and Boaz
- 16-18, Home: Naomi and Ruth debrief
- 4:1-22, Redemption and Fullness
- 1-12, Gate: Boaz and elders
- 13-17, Home: Naomi and townswomen
- 18-22, **Beginning of royal line** in Israel

After Peter Lau, NICOT (2023)

Chiastic Organization of Ruth 2



Helpful Parallels

Describing Boaz

- 2:1a her husband's **acquaintance** מְיָדָע *meyudda* H4129
- 2:1b, 3 of Elimelech's **extended clan** מְשְׁפָּחָה *mishpaxa* H4940 (next level below tribe)
- 2:20 a **redeemer** √גאל *goʔēl* H1350
- 3:2 a **kinsman** מדעת *modaʕat* H4130

(Iaqat H3950 לקט laqat H3950)

Deu 24:19 When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast forgot a sheaf in the field, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow: that the LORD thy God may bless thee in all the work of thine hands. 20 When thou beatest thine olive tree, thou shalt not go over the boughs again: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow. 21 When thou gatherest the grapes of thy vineyard, thou shalt not glean it [ydo over repeatedly] afterward: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow.

2 Thes 3:10 If any would not work, neither should he eat.

Gleaning the Manna

Ex. 16:4 Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. 5 And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. ...

(cf. Lv 19:9,10;23:22)

The Harvest Process

Psa 129:7 Wherewith the **mower** filleth not his hand; nor he that **bindeth sheaves** his bosom.

Mat 13:30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, **Gather [glean]** ye together first the tares, and **bind** them in **bundles** to burn them: but **gather [collect]** the wheat into my barn.

Deu 24:19 When thou cuttest down thine harvest in thy field, and hast **forgot a sheaf in the field**, thou shalt not go again to fetch it: it shall be for the stranger, for the fatherless, and for the widow:





Photos: June 1975, near Debir, Van and Anita Parunak

A Biblical Theory of Random Events

1Sam. 6:9 And see, if it [the cart] goeth up by the way of his own coast to Bethshemesh, then he hath done us this great evil: but if not, then we shall know that it is not his hand that smote us: it was a chance (מקרה miqreh H4745) that happened to us.

2:20 And Naomi said unto her daughter in law, Blessed be he of the LORD, who hath not left off his kindness דֶּשֶׁד to the living and to the dead. And Naomi said unto her, The man is near of kin קרוב unto us, one of our next kinsmen.

Pro 16:33 The **lot** is cast into the lap; but the **whole disposing** thereof is of the LORD.

