

The Book of Ruth

Ruth 3:1-9

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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

A recurring theme ...

Eph 5:21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

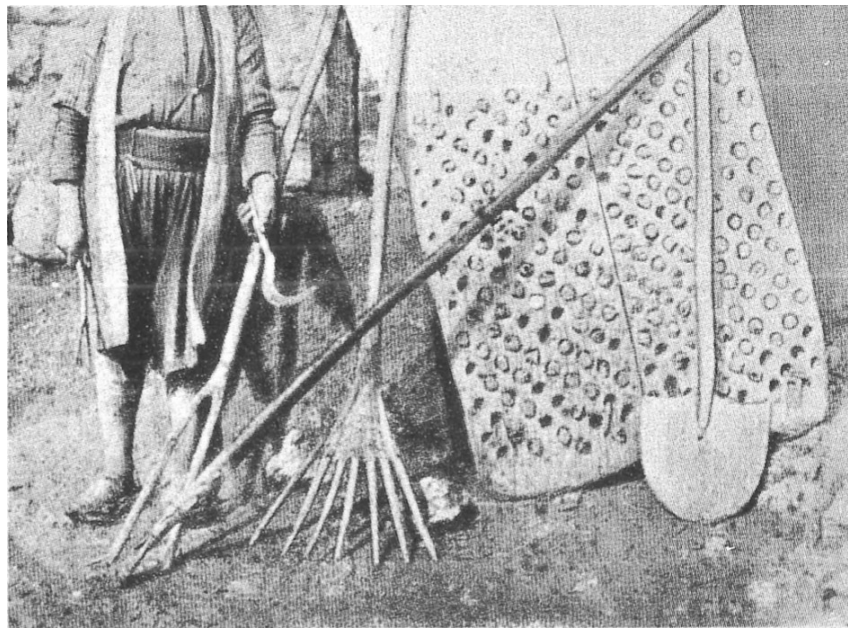
3:1 shall I not seek rest
מנוח *mānôax* H4494 for thee?

1:9 The LORD grant you that ye may find rest **מנוחה *menûxah* H4496**, each of you in the house of her husband.

After Peter Lau, *NICOT* (2023)



Threshing with Stick.
Dalman 3 plate 25



Threshing & Winnowing

Threshing sledge with embedded stones.
Dalman 3 plate 16



Threshing with Sledge. Van & Anita Parunak, Jordan, June 1975



Winnowing.
<https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2019711084/>

3:3 Wash thyself therefore, and anoint thee, and put thy raiment upon thee

2 Sam 12:20 Then David arose from the earth, and **washed**, and **anointed** himself, and changed his **apparel**

Ezek 16:8 Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I **spread my skirt** over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I sware unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becomest mine. 9 Then **washed** I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I **anointed** thee with oil. 10 I **clothed** thee also with broidered work, and shod thee with badgers' skin, and I girded thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk ...

Naomi's Plan

Gen 38:14 And [Tamar] **put her widow's garments off from her**, and covered her with a vail, and wrapped herself, and sat in an open place, which is by the way to Timnath; for she saw that Shelah was grown, and she was not given unto him to wife.

3:3 get thee down to the floor

Threshing floor at Gibeon (town on hill back right)

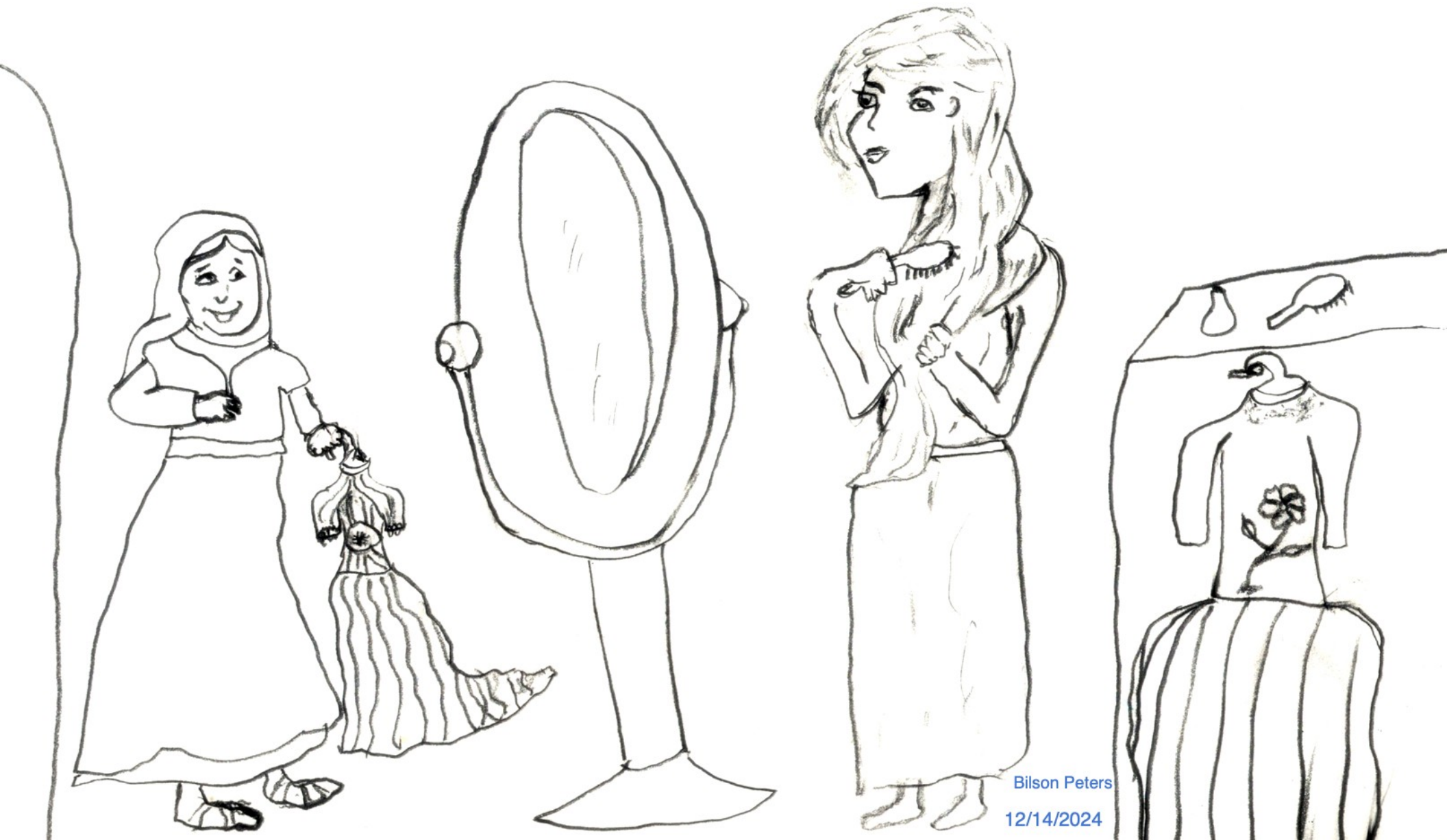


Van and Anita Parunak, Sept 1974

Ruth 3:3

3Therefore wash yourself and anoint yourself, put on your best garment and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.

What did Naomi tell Ruth to do in verse three?



Bilson Peters

12/14/2024

Hebrew Institutions of Marriage and Property

Institution	Legislated	Purpose	Candidate	In Ruth
Levirate Marriage	Deut 25:5-6	Preserve the name of the deceased	If brethren dwell together	1:11-13
Inheritance	Num 27:8-11	Keep property in the clan	Near <i>qarob</i> kinsman, same family (<i>mishpaxa</i>)	2:20; 3:12
Marriage of Heiress	Num 36:6-7	Keep property in the clan	Same family [<i>mishpaxa</i>]	3:9
Redemption	Lev 25:25, 47-49	Keep property in the clan	Near (<i>qarob</i>), same family (<i>mishpaxa</i>)	2:20; 3:9, 12-13; 4:4-9

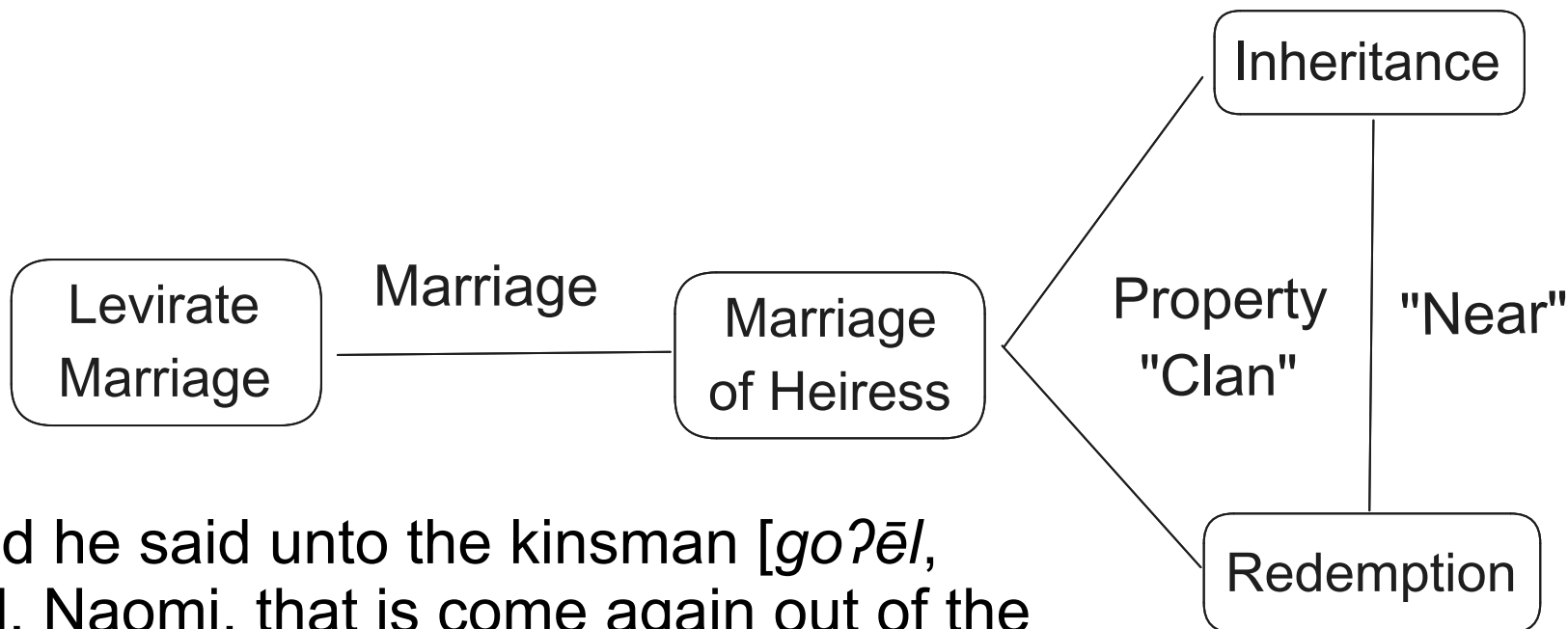
Levirate Marriage: Deu 25:5 If **brethren dwell together**, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, ... 6 And it shall be, that the firstborn which she beareth shall **succeed in the name of his brother** which is dead, that his name be not put out of Israel.

Inheritance: Num 27:8 If a man die, and have no son, then ye shall cause his inheritance to pass unto his **daughter**. 9 And if he have no daughter, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his brethren. 10 And if he have no brethren, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his father's brethren. 11 And if his father have no brethren, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his kinsman that is **next to him qarob** of his **family mishpaxa**, and he shall possess it: ...

Marriage of Heiress: Num 36:6 This is the thing which the LORD doth command concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, Let them marry to whom they think best; only to the **family mishpaxa** of the tribe of their father shall they marry. 7 So shall not the inheritance of the children of Israel remove from tribe to tribe:

Redemption: Lev 25:25 If thy brother be waxen poor, and hath sold away some of his possession, and if any of his **kin qarob** come to redeem it, then shall he redeem that which his brother sold. ... 49 Either his uncle, or his uncle's son, may redeem him, or any that is nigh of kin unto him of his **family mishpaxa** may redeem him; or if he be able, he may redeem himself.

Relations among the Institutions?



Rut 4:3 And he said unto the kinsman [*goʔēl*, **redeemer**], Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, selleth a parcel of land, which was our brother Elimelech's: 4 And I thought to advertise thee, saying, Buy it before the inhabitants, and before the elders of my people. If thou wilt **redeem** it, **redeem** it: but if thou wilt not **redeem** it, then tell me, that I may know: for there is none to **redeem** it beside thee; and I am after thee. And he said, I will **redeem** it.