

The Book of Ruth

Ruth 3:16-4:8

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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

After Peter Lau, *NICOT* (2023)

3:18 Sit Still

Exo 14:13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, **stand still**, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

2Ch 20:17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: **set yourselves, stand ye still**, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.

Psa 46:10 **Be still**, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Isa 30:15 For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and **rest** shall ye be saved; in **quietness** and in **confidence** shall be your strength: ...

What Happened “In the Gate”?

Deu 21:18 If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them: 19 Then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out **unto the elders of his city, and unto the gate** of his place; 20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. 21 And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

Deu 22:15 Then shall the father of the damsel, and her mother, take and bring forth the tokens of the damsel's virginity **unto the elders of the city in the gate:**

2Sa 19:8 Then the king arose, and sat in the gate. And they told unto all the people, saying, Behold, **the king doth sit in the gate.** And all the people came before the king: for Israel had fled every man to his tent.

Pro 22:22 Rob not the poor, because he is poor: neither oppress the afflicted **in the gate:** 23 For the LORD will plead their cause, and spoil the soul of those that spoiled them.

Amo 5:15 Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish **judgment in the gate:** it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

City Gates in Ancient Israel



Shechem (Nov 1974)



Hatzor (Nov 1974)



BeerSheba (note bench) (May 1975)



Megiddo (Nov 1974)

Helpful References

:3 Naomi selleth ... redeem ...

Jer 32:6 And Jeremiah said, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 7 Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth: for the right of redemption $\sqrt{g?l}$ is thine to buy it. 8 So Hanameel mine uncle's son came to me in the court of the prison according to the word of the LORD, and said unto me, Buy my field, I pray thee, that is in Anathoth, which is in the country of Benjamin: for the right of inheritance is thine, and the redemption is thine; buy it for thyself. Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD. 9 And I bought the field of Hanameel my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even seventeen shekels of silver. 10 And I subscribed the evidence, and sealed it, and took witnesses, and weighed him the money in the balances.

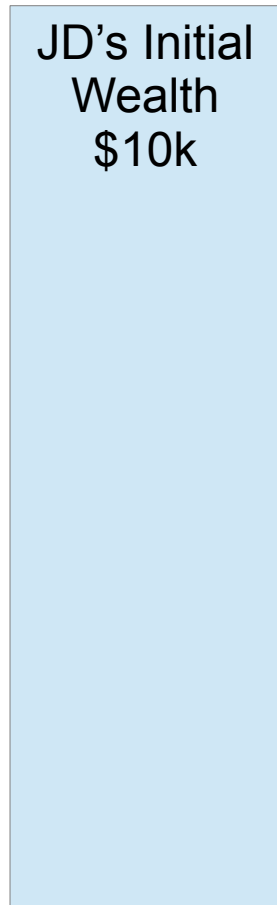
:5 raise up name of the dead

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, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her. 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.

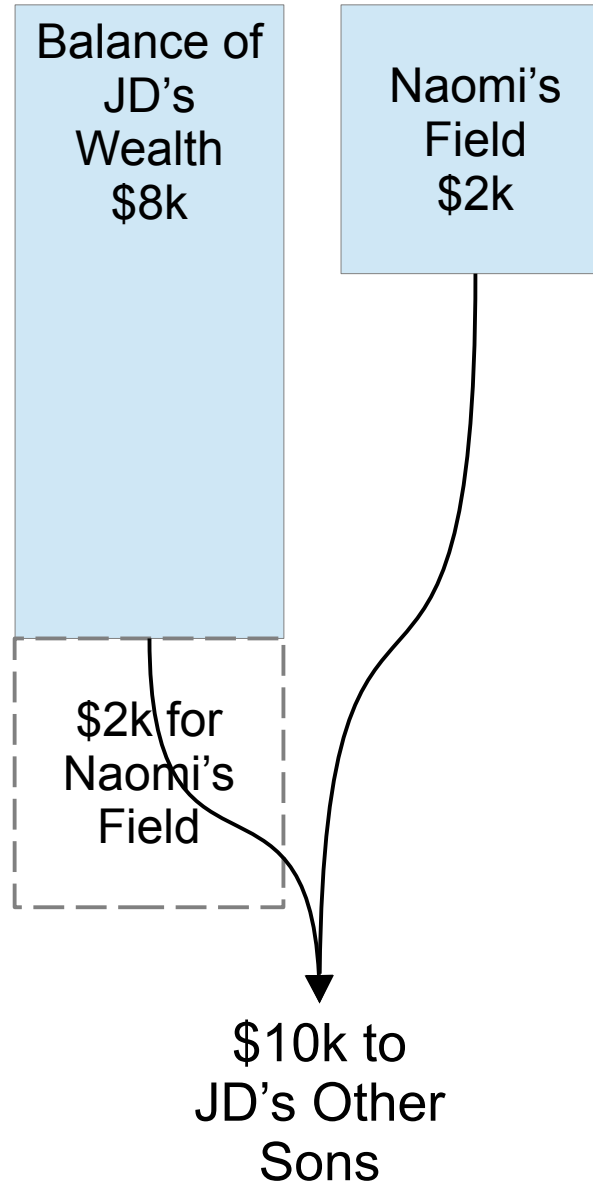
Ruth 4:21 And Salmon begat Boaz, and **Boaz begat Obed**, 22 And Obed begat Jesse, and Jesse begat David.

Marring John Doe's Inheritance

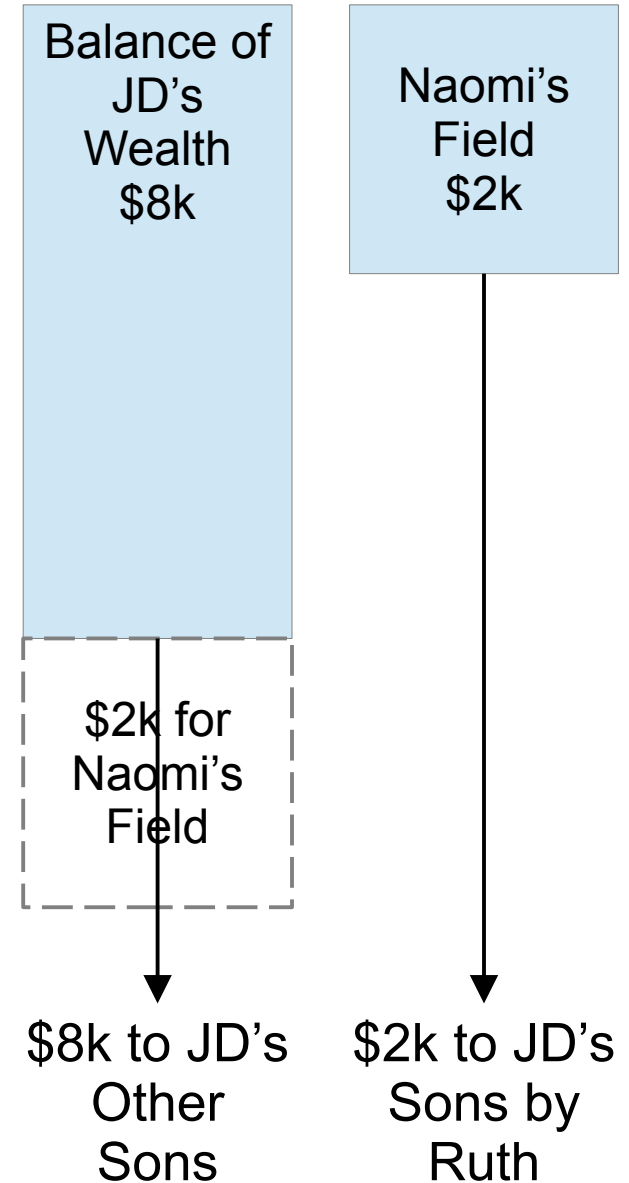
No Purchase



Purchase w/out Ruth



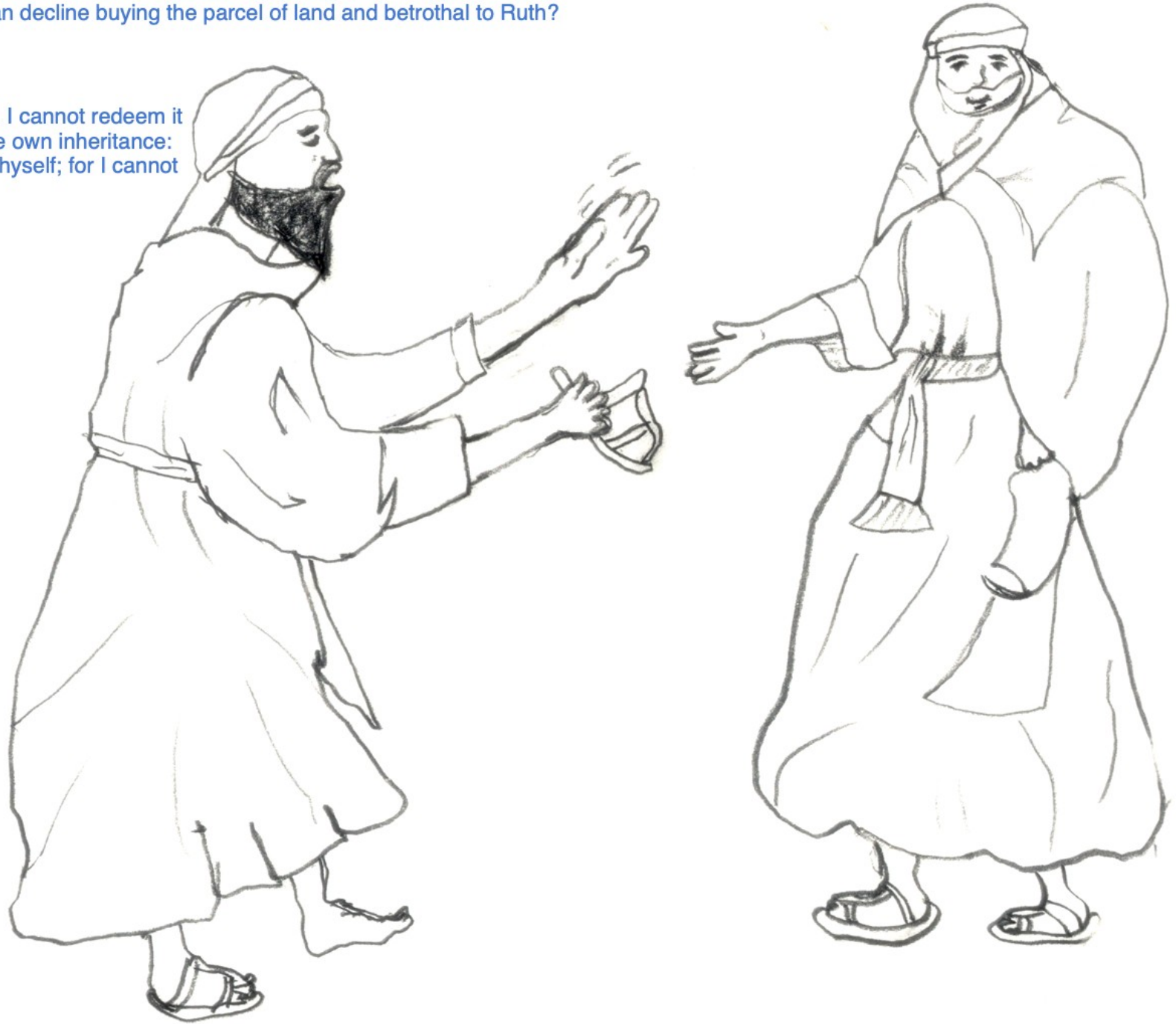
Purchase w/ Ruth



Why did the other kinsman decline buying the parcel of land and betrothal to Ruth?

Ruth 4:6 (KJV)

6¶ And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it.



What does the Shoe Mean?

Deu 25:7 And if the man like not to take his brother's wife, then let his brother's wife go up to the gate unto the elders, and say, My husband's brother refuseth to raise up unto his brother a name in Israel, he will not perform the duty of my husband's brother. 8 Then the elders of his city shall call him, and speak unto him: and if he stand to it, and say, I like not to take her; 9 Then shall his brother's wife come unto him in the presence of the elders, and **loose his shoe from off his foot**, and spit in his face, and shall answer and say, So shall it be done unto that man that will not build up his brother's house. 10 And his name shall be called in Israel, The house of him that hath his shoe loosed.

Gen 13:17 Arise, **walk** through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

	Deut 25	Ruth 4
Who comes to the elders?	The widow	Boaz
Who takes off the shoe?	The widow	The near kinsman
Is shame imputed?	Yes (spitting)	No

Dt 11:24 Every place whereon **the soles of your feet shall tread** shall be yours: from the wilderness and Lebanon, from the river, the river Euphrates, even unto the uttermost sea shall your coast be.

Jos 1:3 Every place that the **sole of your foot shall tread upon**, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

Dt 1:35 Surely there shall not one of these men of this evil generation see that good land, which I sware to give unto your fathers, 36 Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it, and to him will I give **the land that he hath trodden upon**, and to his children

Jos 14:9 And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land **whereon thy feet have trodden** shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.