

The Book of Ruth

Ruth 4:7-22

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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

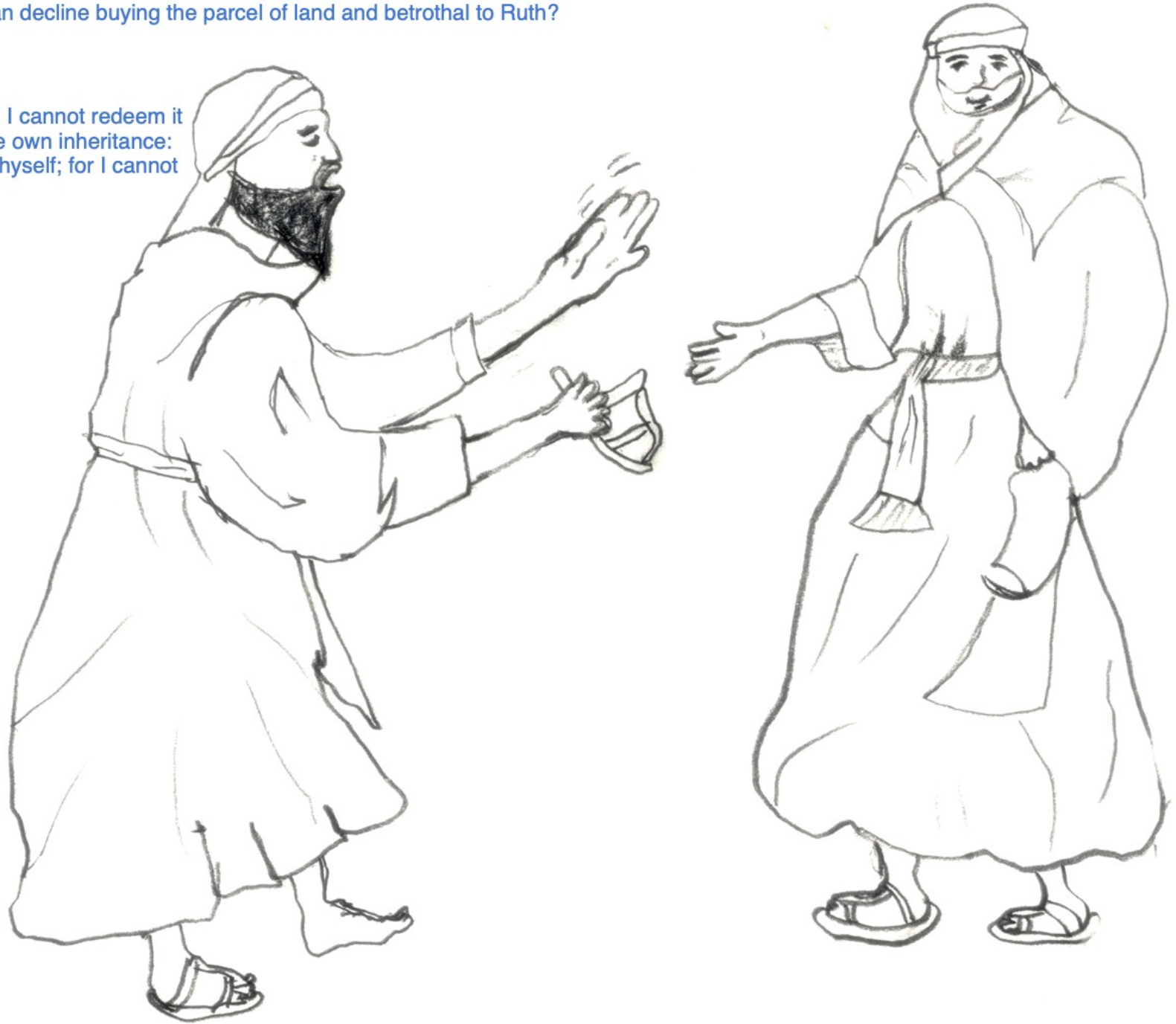
- 1-12, **Gate**: Boaz and elders
- 13-17, Home: Naomi and **townswomen**
- 18-22, **Beginning of royal line** in Israel

After Peter Lau, *NICOT* (2023)

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 (Ruth and Naomi are absent)
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.

The Elders' Blessing on Boaz

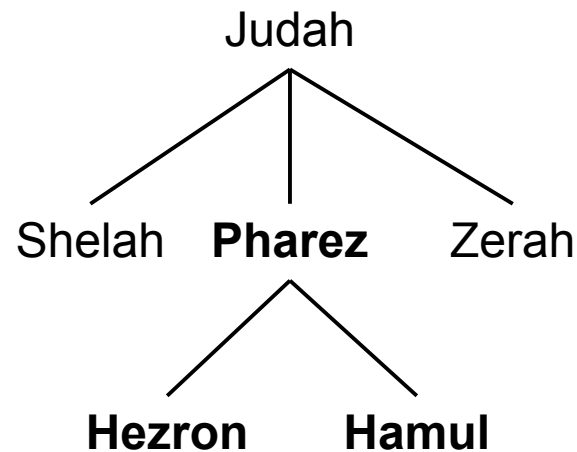
:11a wife like
Rachel and Leah (fruitful)

:12 house like
Pharez
(prominent)

:11b do thou **worthily**
(*xayil*) in Ephratah
be **famous** in
Bethlehem

Ruth 2:1 And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of **wealth**, of the family of Elimelech; and his name was Boaz.

Num 26:20 And the sons of Judah after their families were; of Shelah, the family of the Shelanites: of Pharez, the family of the Pharezites: of Zerah, the family of the Zarahites. 21 And the sons of Pharez were; of Hezron, the family of the Hezronites: of Hamul, the family of the Hamulites.



From Curse to Blessing

Naomi to the Women:

1:13 the hand of the LORD is
gone out against me.

:20 call [feminine] me Mara
[bitter]: for the Almighty hath
dealt very bitterly with me.

:21a I went out full, and the
LORD hath **brought me home**
again empty:

:21b why then call [feminine] ye
me Naomi, seeing the LORD
hath **testified against me,**

:21c and the Almighty hath
afflicted me?

The Women to Naomi:

4:14 Blessed be the LORD,
Which hath not left thee this day
without a **kinsman** [redeemer]
And **his** name shall be famous
in Israel

:15 And **he** shall be unto thee
A restorer of thy life
And a nourisher of thine old
age

Thy **daughter in law** ... hath born
him

Which loveth thee
Which is better to thee than
seven sons



Ruth 4:14-17

17 And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

What was the name of Ruth and Boaz's firstborn child?

4:15 a nourisher [כַּלְקַלְתִּי *kalkēl* H3557]

Gen 45:7 And **God sent me before you** to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. 8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt. 9 Haste ye, and go up to my father, and say unto him, Thus saith thy son Joseph, God hath made me lord of all Egypt: come down unto me, tarry not: 10 And thou shalt dwell in the land of Goshen, and thou shalt be near unto me, thou, and thy children, and thy children's children, and thy flocks, and thy herds, and all that thou hast: 11 And there will I **nourish** thee; for yet there are five years of famine; lest thou, and thy household, and all that thou hast, come to poverty.

Gen 47:12 And Joseph **nourished** his father, and his brethren, and all his father's household, with bread, according to their families.

Gen 50:19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? 20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but **God meant it unto good**, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. 21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will **nourish** you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

Genealogical Observations

Deu 23:3 An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter into the congregation of the LORD; even to their tenth generation shall they not enter into the congregation of the LORD for ever:

Ruth 4:18-22	Matt 1:3-6
Pharez begat Hezron	Phares begat Esrom
19 Hezron begat Ram	Esrom begat Aram
Ram begat Amminadab	4 Aram begat Aminadab
20 Amminadab begat Nahshon	Aminadab begat Naasson
Nahshon begat Salmon	Naasson begat Salmon
21 Salmon begat Boaz	5 Salmon begat Booz of Rachab
Boaz begat Obed,	Booz begat Obed of Ruth
22 Obed begat Jesse	Obed begat Jesse
Jesse begat David	6 And Jesse begat David the king

One Sentence Summaries

Chapter 1: After the death of a family in Moab, two women return to Bethlehem, an Israelite complaining about the Lord's faithlessness, and a Gentile clinging to him in faith.

Chapter 2: The Lord works through apparent accidents to guide Ruth to Boaz, who feeds her and Naomi.

Chapter 3: Boaz agrees to redeem and marry Ruth.

Chapter 4: The Lord restores Naomi and founds the line that leads to King David (and the Messiah).

Overall: The Lord restores an Israelite's faith and honors that of a Gentile by raising up a faithful redeemer and establishing the Messianic family.