**Famous in Bethlehem: A Drama of Redemption**

Ruth 1-4

**Ruth 4:9 (ESV)**Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon.

**Ruth 4:10 (ESV)**Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day.”

**Ruth 4:11 (ESV)**Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, “We are witnesses. May the Lord make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem,

**Act I: The Family Ruth Relinquished by Faith**

**Ruth 1:1 (ESV)**In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons.

**Ruth 1:2 (ESV)**The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.

**Ruth 1:3 (ESV)**But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons.

**Ruth 1:4 (ESV)**These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years,

**Ruth 1:5 (ESV)**and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

**Ruth 1:15 (ESV)**And she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.”

**Ruth 1:16 (ESV)**But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

**Ruth 1:17 (ESV)**Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.”

**Ruth 1:18 (ESV)**And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

**Ruth 1:19 (ESV)**So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them. And the women said, “Is this Naomi?”

**Ruth 1:20 (ESV)**She said to them, “Do not call me Naomi; call me Mara, for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.

**Matthew 19:29 (ESV)**And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for My name’s sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life.

**Act II: The Field Ruth Reaped by Faith**

**Ruth 2:1 (ESV)**Now Naomi had a relative of her husband’s, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz.

**Ruth 2:2 (ESV)**And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor.” And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.”

**Ruth 2:3 (ESV)**So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech.

**Ruth 2:15 (ESV)**When she rose to glean, Boaz instructed his young men, saying, “Let her glean even among the sheaves, and do not reproach her.

**Ruth 2:16 (ESV)**And also pull out some from the bundles for her and leave it for her to glean, and do not rebuke her.”

**Ruth 2:17 (ESV)**So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley.

**Ruth 2:18 (ESV)**And she took it up and went into the city. Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied.

**Ruth 2:19 (ESV)**And her mother-in-law said to her, “Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who to ok notice of you.” So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, “The man’s name with whom I worked today is Boaz.”

**Act III: The Favor Ruth Requested by Faith**

**Ruth 3:1 (ESV)**Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you?

**Ruth 3:2 (ESV)**Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor.

**Ruth 3:3 (ESV)**Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.

**Ruth 3:4 (ESV)**But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do.”

**Ruth 3:5 (ESV)**And she replied, “All that you say I will do.”

**Ruth 3:9 (ESV)**He said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer.”

**Ruth 3:10 (ESV)**And he said, “May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich.

**Ruth 3:11 (ESV)**And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman.

**Ruth 3:12 (ESV)**And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I.

**Ruth 3:13 (ESV)**Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the Lord lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning.”

**Romans 8:32 (ESV)**He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?

**Act IV: The Future Ruth Received by Faith**

**Ruth 4:1 (ESV)**Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, the redeemer, of whom Boaz had spoken, came by. So Boaz said, “Turn aside, friend; sit down here.” And he turned aside and sat down.

**Ruth 4:2 (ESV)**And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, “Sit down here.” So they sat down.

**Ruth 4:3 (ESV)**Then he said to the redeemer, “Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our relative Elimelech.

**Ruth 4:4 (ESV)**So I thought I would tell you of it and say, ‘Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.’ If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you.” And he said, “I will redeem it.”

**Ruth 4:5 (ESV)**Then Boaz said, “The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance.”

**Ruth 4:6 (ESV)**Then the redeemer said, “I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.”

**Ruth 4:13 (ESV)**So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the Lord gave her conception, and she bore a son.

**Ruth 4:14 (ESV)**Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be the Lord, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel!

**Ruth 4:15 (ESV)**He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him.”

**Ruth 4:16 (ESV)**Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her lap and became his nurse.

**Ruth 4:17 (ESV)**And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

**Matthew 1:1 (ESV)**The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.