

Judgement and Deliverance

This week – We continue our series on how God blesses those who exercise faith in Him.

Blessed be the LORD, which hath not left thee ...without a kinsman... and He shall be unto thee a restorer of thy life”
Ruth 4v14-15

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Ruth 1v1-22 (Ruth puts God first in her life)	
Monday	Ruth 2v1-12 (Boaz recognises Ruth’s kind heart)	
Tuesday	Ruth 2v13-23 (Boaz shows kindness to Ruth)	
Wednesday	Ruth 3v1-18 (Boaz becomes Ruth’s kinsman redeemer)	
Thursday	Ruth 4v1-22 (Boaz marries Ruth, Obed is born)	
Friday	1 Peter 1 v13-25 (Redeemed by the Precious Blood of Christ)	
Saturday	Galatians 3 v1-14 (Christ redeems, ‘buys back.’)	

Important Thought for us Today: Without God’s merciful Law of a Kinsman redeemer, (Deut 25v5 & Leviticus 25v25), the death of Naomi’s and Ruth’s husbands meant the ‘death’ of their future prospects. The law said that a close male relative of the husband should take responsibility for the widow by marrying her, buying back (redeeming) any inheritance (land) previously sold. Their posterity was saved by Boaz marrying Ruth. **What love!**

The Lord Jesus Christ offers Himself to be our Kinsman Redeemer. Our inheritance of Heaven was lost when Adam sinned. In order to have Heaven restored to us we need Christ to be our **Saviour and Redeemer**. The price He paid was immense – He paid with His life’s blood and He suffered what our sin deserves - the eternal wrath of God the Father. **Christ’s love for sinners was even greater than Boaz’s for Ruth!** (See John 3v16 & John 15v13). **Don’t turn your back on His love; repent of sin, and receive God’s blessing of Redemption!**

A hymn praising the Lord Jesus Christ as the only Redeemer of lost sinners: (211)

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| 1. Now in praise let us arise,
Sing the Saviour’s sacrifice;
All the names that love could find,
Jesus in Himself has joined;
All the forms that love could take,
Our lost souls His own to make. | 5. Hail our dear Redeemer-King!
All Thy wondrous love we sing;
Never shall Thy triumphs end,
Jesus, Lord, the sinner’s Friend!
Hail derided majesty!
Friend of sinners—and of me! |
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Ruth Finds A New Home.

- **The Tragic Circumstances that Befell Naomi and her Family.**
 - Famine in Bethlehem had driven Elimelech and Naomi to the land of Moab. A land where people worshipped idols and not the One true God of Israel.
 - Elimelech and Naomi had two sons Mahlon and Chilion who grew up and married Orpah and Ruth. Sadly, Elimelech, Mahlon, and Chilion died, leaving Naomi, Orpah, and Ruth as widows with no one to support them.

- **Naomi’s Faithful Testimony to Orpah and Ruth.**
 - Naomi faced these times of sorrow and grief with great faith in her God, believing that it was His will for her to return to Bethlehem, in Judea.
 - She suggests to Orpah and Ruth that they stay in Moab and remarry. At first neither want to leave her, and express a desire to go with her. They saw how much Naomi loved her family, and even more so, her God, and were impressed by her composure and trust in Him, and His ways.

Note: *Many have started to seek the Lord having observed the witness of a friend or relative – especially when, in adversity, they clearly show their trust and faith in God.*

- **Orpah’s Response** - Returns to Moab seeing the difficulty of living in Bethlehem.
- **Ruth’s Response** - Having seen the love of Naomi’s God she believed and clung to Naomi saying, *‘Thy people will be my people, and thy God my God.’* Ruth 1 v16

Our Response – Seek and find the Lord’s forgiveness - then we must cling to Him.

- **God’s Rich Provision for Ruth and Naomi in Difficult Days.**
 - After a long walk to Bethlehem, with no money, God led Ruth to find ‘work’ gleaning, (collecting corn left by the reapers), in the harvest fields of Boaz.
 - Boaz, (Rahab’s son), saw Ruth and discovered that he was a kinsman (relative of Elimelech). He loved God and kindly told his reapers to leave extra grain for her.
 - Naomi instructs Ruth on how she is to approach Boaz. So at night Ruth tremblingly laid down at Boaz’s feet to claim his covering and loving care.

Note: *This is a picture of how we must seek the Lord. We are poor and needy sinners so we must bow down at His feet, calling upon the mercy of God, asking Him to forgive us our sin and to cover us with the righteousness of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour.*

- Boaz, as the kinsman redeemer, made arrangements to settle all Naomi’s’ financial needs, and marries Ruth. Later they are blessed with a son, Obed.
- Ruth and Boaz were David’s great grandparents and in the lineage of Christ.

Ruth was redeemed by the Lord, blessed for her faithfulness, and became a member of God’s family. Orpah lost everything by turning back to the false ‘gods’ of Moab.

Come to the Lord in repentant faith, OR will you cling to ‘gods’ which cannot save?

The Lord Jesus said, ‘Whosoever will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.’ **Mark 8v34**