

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Redeeming Love

SERMON REFERENCE: Ruth 4

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2091

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1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The book of Ruth has a happy ending.
 - i) It didn't start happily.
 - ii) It began with a funeral, but it ends with a wedding.
 - iii) It began with a famine, but it ends with fullness.
 - iv) It began with weeping; but in this fourth and final chapter, joy has come.
 - (1) Psalm 30:5
- b) Remember that Ruth is a picture of us - the church, the bride of Christ. Boaz is a picture of the Lord Jesus Christ, our kinsman redeemer.
 - i) Ruth was a Moabitess, and Boaz was an Israelite.
 - ii) Ruth was a stranger from a hateful nation that had a curse upon it. She was alienated from the commonwealth of Israel.
 - iii) Boaz redeemed her, brought her in and married her.
- c) The key word in Ruth 4 is redemption.
 - i) The word "redemption" is used at least 15 times in this one chapter.
 - ii) Ruth 4:4
- d) In Ruth 4, we find three pictures of our Lord's gift of salvation.

2) A PICTURE OF OUR REDEEMING LORD (Ruth 4:1-6)

- a) There were two laws from ancient Israel that come into play in Ruth 4.
 - i) The law of the kinsman redeemer.
 - (1) Leviticus 25
 - (2) In ancient Israel, God would give land to a tribe and family.
 - (3) If the landowner mortgaged his land or went into bankruptcy and had to sell his land, a near relative (a kinsman redeemer) could redeem that land and buy it back.
 - ii) The law of the Levirate marriage.
 - (1) Deuteronomy 25
 - (2) If a married couple had no children and the husband died, then the man's brother was to take the man's wife, who was now a widow, and marry her and endeavor to have children in order to keep the man's name alive.
 - iii) Therefore, there was a kinsman redeemer who could buy back the land and a kinsman who could marry the widow to raise up children.
 - iv) Three things were necessary in order for a man to be able to buy back the lost estate and marry the widow who came with the estate:
 - (1) He had to have the legal qualifications.
 - (a) He had to be a near kinsman.
 - (2) He had to have the money to do it; he had to be wealthy enough.
 - (3) He had to be willing to do it; it was not forced upon him.
 - v) These qualifications picture our Redeeming Lord.
- b) Boaz was legally worthy.
 - i) Ruth 4:6
 - (1) Boaz was legally worthy and was ready to buy back the land and marry Ruth, but there was a nearer kinsman than he.

- (a) The nearer kinsman who could not redeem represents Adam.
 - (b) We are all related to Adam.
 - (c) In Adam, we all die.
 - ii) Ruth 4:2
 - (1) Boaz gathered together ten witnesses in the gate.
 - (2) The Ten Commandments are the ten witnesses that testify that our Adamic nature cannot save us.
 - (a) If we break the law in one point, we are guilty of all.
 - iii) The nearer kinsman, so full of self and selfishness (lest he mar his own inheritance) could not redeem.
 - (1) But there was one who was next in line willing to redeem.
 - (2) Our Lord Jesus Christ became a human being that He might become our near kinsman.
 - (a) Hebrews 2:14
 - c) Jesus is legally worthy.
 - i) He had to redeem us as man in order to be our near kinsman.
 - ii) Revelation 5:1-9
 - (1) The book referred to in this passage is the title deed to Earth; the official document that determines the outcome of all history.
 - (2) Jesus alone is worthy.
 - d) Jesus is lavishly wealthy.
 - i) Ruth 2:1
 - (1) Boaz was a mighty man of wealth.
 - ii) Jesus paid a far greater price for us than Boaz paid for Ruth.
 - (1) 1 Peter 1:18-19
 - (2) Ephesians 1:7
 - (3) 1 Peter 3:18
 - (4) Revelation 5:9
 - iii) Jesus bought us back with His blood.
 - e) Jesus was lovingly willing.
 - i) Boaz did not have to buy Ruth, nor did the Lord Jesus have to buy us.
 - ii) He does not love us because we're valuable; we're valuable because He loves us.
 - iii) He loves us by His sheer grace, as Boaz loved Ruth before she ever knew his name.
 - iv) We love Him because He first loved us.
 - (1) 1 John 4:19
- 3) A PICTURE OF OUR RENEWED LIFE (Ruth 4:7-8)
- a) Ruth had three major problems; and without Christ, we share these same problems.
 - i) Ephesians 2:12-13
 - ii) Her past was cursed.
 - (1) She was born a Moabite.
 - (a) She was an alien from the commonwealth of Israel.
 - (b) Ephesians 2:12
 - (2) She lived under a curse.

- (a) Deuteronomy 23:3
 - (b) The Moabites were descendants of Lot, who had a child through an incestuous relationship with his daughter; and the curse was upon them.
 - (3) According to the law, the law could not admit Ruth.
 - (a) So is the case with each of us.
 - (b) In Adam, we all die.
 - iii) Her present was crushed.
 - (1) Ephesians 2:12
 - (a) Ruth was a stranger to the things of God; she was without Christ.
 - (b) Her life was marked by tragedy and sorrow.
 - (c) The joys of a life with Christ were not hers.
 - iv) Her future was condemned.
 - (1) Ephesians 2:12
 - (2) Her future, without God, was hopeless.
 - b) Ephesians 2:19
 - c) The word “redeem” means “to purchase, to buy back.” It can also mean “to buy out,” “to take out of the marketplace.” It also means “to set free.”
 - i) When our Lord redeemed us, not only did He buy us, but He took us out of the market place; we are no longer for sale.
 - (1) This speaks to our eternal security.
 - ii) We are set free in Christ.
 - d) Ruth 4:7-8
 - i) As was the custom, the nearer kinsman, who could not redeem, took off his shoe and handed it to Boaz.
 - ii) When Jesus paid for our sins, He took our place: He stands in our shoes.
 - (1) As Boaz stood in the shoes of the nearer kinsman, Jesus stood in our shoes and paid the price that we cannot pay.
 - iii) 2 Corinthians 5:21
- 4) A PICTURE OF OUR RESTORED LEGACY (Ruth 4:10-17)
- a) Ruth received a family.
 - i) Ruth 4:10
 - ii) When we are saved, we become a part of the family of God.
 - b) Ruth received a fortune.
 - i) Ruth 4:10
 - ii) No longer is Ruth gleaning the fields; she owns the field. She shares in the wealth of Boaz.
 - iii) As Christians, we are joint heirs with Jesus.
 - (1) Romans 8:17
 - (2) Joint heir means to “share and share alike.”
 - (3) Everything that belongs to Jesus belongs to us.
 - (a) Psalm 37:11
 - c) Ruth received fame.
 - i) Ruth 4:11

- ii) Even today, the name of Ruth is spoken with reverence.
- iii) If we know Jesus, we are part of royalty, married into the family of God.
- d) Ruth received fruitfulness.
 - i) Ruth 4:11
 - (1) The word “Ephrahtah” means “fruitful.”
 - ii) John 15:16
- e) Ruth received a future.
 - i) Ruth 4:16-17
 - ii) Ruth’s son, Obed, was the grandfather of David, the ancestry of our Lord Jesus Christ.

5) CONCLUSION

- a) If people only knew what they have in Christ Jesus, then we couldn’t keep them away from following Him.
- b) Jesus bought us with a great price.
- c) Just as Ruth was not ashamed of Boaz, neither should we be ashamed of Jesus Christ.
 - i) Mark 8:38
- d) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- e) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31