

Ruth 3

Sit Still

(Until You Know How It Turns Out)

Intro

- *Teaching through Genesis a few years back, my eyes were really opened to God being with Man throughout it, in a way I hadn't quite seen in an intimate way before. **This is what the Bible loves to show us, God with us. Emmanuel, Melchizedek, even God visiting S&G before judgment destruction.***
- **When we come to the Bible it should be to see Jesus.** To hear from God. Hear his heart for us. "Draw near to me and I will draw near to you." [James 4:8] He wants to reveal himself to us, that we might see him as he really is.
- Reading through Judges personally lately. God still with the Jews, even though they kept leaving him...Ruth is Chronological after Judges as well. **God's next chapter in the story of redemption. Setting in order the line of The King before the time of the kings**
- **God is making a point to go out of the way to show the redemption of a gentile and her part in the lineage of David, the throne and ultimately Jesus**
- **Ruth had made Naomi's people and more importantly God, hers.**
- **Rahab** saw the Israelites and what God did through them and came to fear God as well - and she's included there - ***guess who Rahab's son is...Boaz. (Matthew 1)***
- **Ruth - David's great grandmother Boaz, Obed, Jesse, David**
- **Naomi said *mara bitter*, coming back empty... but God was bringing her back to bring about the kingly line**

God will empty us completely before He uses us greatly

- ***Watching videos on Japan, wanting to go there. Thinking about when we moved to Montana - wanting to be Montanans. Not wanting to be East Coasters anymore, aside for the love of Pizza***

Recent Thought: *When one becomes a citizen of another nation, one tries to adapt their customs and morals, and not inject your own. Although that is not what we tend to do in our modern culture. We try and inject our own customs into the society in which we move to. But for heavenly society, we are to adapt to heaven's customs, morals and way of life. We are not to inject our own way of life, our own notions and suppositions into the heavenly life.*

We are to become the heavenly man/woman. We are pilgrims and sojourners in this world - headed home to another world. We are not bringing anything with us, that includes our customs. Instead, as the heavenly citizen, we are to bring heaven's customs and heavens values to the earthly kingdom

When Pastor Caleb asked me to fill in for him and cover this next portion of Ruth, I asked, "Are you sure? You've given me the gold!"

[Pray]

3:1-7

Seek security...

The word is actually rest

Being poor, not knowing where your next meal will come from, how you will pay the bills when rent is due, can be very stressful. It's always on your mind.

God does not want us to live that way.

We may never be rich, but God wants us to be at rest.

Matchmaker Naomi

"matchmaker matchmaker make me a match..."

Before dating Ashlee, Jim Young in the sound booth...

DGC Commentary

ii. The goel — sometimes translated kinsman-redeemer — had a specifically defined role in Israel's family life.

- *The kinsman-redeemer was responsible to **buy a fellow Israelite out of slavery** (Leviticus 25:48).*
- *He was responsible to be the "**avenger of blood**" to make sure the murderer of a family member answered to the crime (Numbers 35:19).*
- *He was responsible to buy **back family land that had been forfeited** (Leviticus 25:25).*
- *He was responsible to **carry on the family name** by marrying a childless widow (Deuteronomy 25:5-10).*
- *iii. In this, we see that the goel, the kinsman-redeemer, was responsible to **safeguard the persons, the property, and the posterity** of the family*

That's the power of the kinsmen redeemer. Buying back what was lost

Can you see Jesus in this? *Buying us out of slavery, avenging blood spilled in our sin and sin against us, buying back the Kingdom of God in us and the forfeited earth in the garden, continuing the family for eternity when death came in to rob us of eternal life*

Wash and anoint yourself, put on your best

Sounds like a wedding, or a date

Seeing folks on a date when eating dinner with my boss...glad I'm not there anymore - unsaved and in the dating world

What was her best though? Would it even be nice? It was the nicest she had.

We don't dress nicely, as a whole, anymore...just go to Walmart and see

It wasn't necessarily about her appearance, although I'm sure it helped, I think it was about her posture. One of respect.

You know, like the Senate dress code.

Boaz was her family sure, but she had no right, was taking a risk when she was already allowed to glean there with the other young girls.

What if he said no? What if he kicked her out? What then?

She could have played it "safe", but she stepped out in faith and obedience

What would she really lose anyway? A life of struggle, loneliness and fear?

"Do not make yourself known until he's finished eating and drinking"

Timing is everything, especially in big requests

Don't interrupt the party. Wait until he's full and relaxed. Better chance of a yes.

Uncover his feet, and lie down

This isn't something improper, or sexual. **This is a sign of submission.**

We don't like submission in our society. We've corrupted the holiness of it and in it. The goodness, safety and security provided by it.

Eph 5:22 - Wives submit to husbands as unto the Lord...husbands love your wives, as Christ loved and gave himself

There's a two way street. Love and respect. Submission and salvation. The wife lays down her will, the man lays down his life.

It's projecting to say that it is anything else. Our time is one without submission, one without tradition, one with rampant cultural immorality.

The Bible is clear when there is failure throughout. It doesn't gloss over.

Plus, Boaz a picture of Jesus. Boaz wasn't perfect, but he did the right thing here.

God can redeem your past, your relationships, your moral failings

don't believe me? 4:13 makes it clear, it would do so here too if that were the case.

it would change the entire story of redemption.

Past failure doesn't prevent present purity

Lie of the enemy...you've already failed, no sense stopping

Ruth at the feet of Boaz - This is a picture of us, the church with our savior, redeemer Lord

Where else do we see this?

- Jesus taking the servants role and washing the disciples feet [John 13:4-20] His authority, love and kingship **shown in service**
- Mary putting expensive perfume on Jesus' feet, preparing for his burial - **Her value and worth laid down.**
John 12:3 Then took Mary a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair: and the house was filled with the odour of the ointment.
The quality of a life laid down is unmistakable and evident to all who are around it. To those seeking righteousness it smells beautiful, to those seeking their own, it wreaks of waste.
- Mary Sitting at Jesus' feet while Martha was mad and working in the kitchen.
[Luke 10:38-42 NKJV] Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His word. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. "But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."
- People like to project infidelity on Mary and Jesus as well.
- Boaz could have anyone and he had everything to give.
- **Ruth had only herself, her loyalty, her heart to give.**
She laid it all down at the feet of her redeemer.

:8-13

The man was startled at midnight

I would be too!

*Adam in the garden, put into a deep sleep...Eve formed out of his rib. **He exclaims, WOAHH, MAN! Look at her! Goes off on an excited speech.***

He asked who are you, it was dark.

Leah and Jacob. Laban tricked him and snuck her in without him seeing who she was.

The proper relationship model - you're busy serving God, not looking actively for a spouse, God will bring one alongside you, and wake you up to this person next to you being the one for you.

She replies:

Her name - Ruth, friend

Her position - maidservant

Her mission - come under his authority by the tradition

“Blessed are you of the LORD, my daughter”

Similar to how the angel appears to Mary to announce her pregnancy

Proper model of men and women in the church - 1 Tim 5:2 older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with all purity.

You have more kindness at the end than at the beginning

She was genuine. She hadn't been flattering him to get what she wanted.

You did not go after young men, rich or poor

Boaz was no spring chicken. He might not even have been terribly attractive.

But he was available. And she was interested.

SPOILER ALERT

Midrash, Jewish commentary, not scripture

Ruth 40, ending child bearing age potentially

Boaz 80, dies after wedding before Obed born

Obed named by neighbors (ch 4)

Ash talking to me after service, genuinely asking how I was. Most people didn't do that, it was always something about them, some issue, something needed to be taken care of, or something vain at first. Totally, fine it's what I was there for. But she was different.

Please turn to 1st Timothy 5:1-16 (if time)

It applies to both Ruth and Boaz. She was a widow and family and it was his right duty to care for her in some form at least. And for her, she was still young, able to serve, able to marry. She should not go around wantonly.

Is this not a major issue in our society? Rampant divorce. Now nobody wants to get married in the first place. Old folks shipped off and ignored. The church and family pawning the care off their own to the government or some facility that doesn't care about them? **This should not be our lifestyle.**

I will do all that you request

Boaz was down!

Everyone knows you are a virtuous woman (Prov 31)

Even though she was poor and he was rich...they were in the same league. They were both God-fearing, and virtuous people.

That's the most important part of a relationship - you are spiritually aligned and equal in your pursuit of God. Then it's mental/emotional compatibility, and finally physical compatibility.

[2 Corinthians 6:14-16 NKJV] Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among [them]. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

There is a relative closer than I

Boaz was being honorable here. Of course he was willing, but he knew there was someone else with the right. He wasn't going to do Ruth or this person wrong by taking her for himself.

But I think, in a way, he was also unknowingly prophesying of Jesus

"The friend who sticks closer than a brother" Prov 18:24

I will perform the duty for you.

He was willing, able and ready to do the right thing.

He was committed to cover.

Responsibility and blessing of covering and being covered: God over us. The father over a family. The father over a husband. The father over a daughter.

As he went back to sleep...do you think she might have laid there wondering, "Will he remember?" Do you think she prayed and rested in trust?

2 Peter 3:9a “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise”

:14-18

Do not let it be known

Boaz wanted to talk with the other redeemer first

Asking for hand in marriage from father...my brother on the phone. Ash and I just showed up at 1am. Whoops!

He blessed her with more barley

DGC “Not having any chocolates, he gave her six handfuls of grain”

Still romantic than me

“ephahs was added and certainly incorrect, that’s 33 gallons.”

Still early, and dark. Naomi asking when she came in...

She told her all...you know how woman are when they’re excited about a relationship!

Ash and her mom, “Mom, I think I like Tim”

Naomi replies, “Sit still my daughter until you know how the matter will turn out.”

It was exciting! But the time to act was over. The time to wait was now.

[John 14:1-4 NKJV] "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. "In My Father's house are many mansions; if [it were] not [so], I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, [there] you may be also. "And where I go you know, and the way you know."

When God says to wait, we must wait.

If we act when he says to wait, we'll only make it a mess. Ask me how I know.

To sit still and let the redeemer do his redeeming work.

The man will not rest until the matter is settled

A righteous man will do whatever it takes and won't wait,

can't sleep "God never sleeps or slumbers"

Don't put off til tomorrow what you can do today

Pay neighbor when you have it with you

The longer we wait to do the right thing the more excuses we come up with

Carpe diem. The time to buy is when you find it.

An excitement to do the right thing -The DMV is awful but we'll gladly go there and get it over with if we just bought our brand new ride

Next week: we'll see how it turns out with Boaz

Are you in need of rest? Have you been struggling, striving?
Come to Jesus. Come to the feet of your redeemer.

[Matthew 11:28-30 NKJV] "Come to Me, all [you] who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. "For My yoke [is] easy and My burden is light."