

Ruth: The Mother of Kings

Bible-First Lifestyle Reading: Romans 4-16; Ruth; Prov. 20-23

“So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. And Lord enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son...Boaz the father of Obed, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David.”

Ruth 4:13; 21-22

Characters in the story:

Bethlehem: house of bread

Elimelech: my God is King

Naomi: pleasant/Mara: Bitter

Mahlon: unhealthy

Kilion: puny

Orpah: stiff-necked, handful of water

Ruth: beauty, abundance of water

Boaz: in Him is strength

A mother of kings is first a woman of character.

1. Ruth was **faithful**

“Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me.” Ruth 1:16-17

2. Ruth was **industrious**

“And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, “Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I have favor...As it turned out she found herself working in the field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech.” Ruth 2:2-3

Law of Gleaning - Israelite welfare system - Lev. 19:9-10, Dt. 24:19,21

The fields in which she gleaned were the same field her great-grandson David would tend the family sheep and write many of the Psalms.

3. Ruth was **humble**

“At this she bowed down with her face to the ground. She exclaimed, “Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me – a foreigner?...May I continue to find favor in your eyes, my lord. You have given me comfort and have spoken kindly to your servant – though I do not have the standing of one of your servant girls.” Ruth 2:10-14

“Boaz replied, “I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband – how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a

people you did not know before. May the Lord repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.” Ruth 2:11-12

4. Ruth was **wise**

“Ruth answered Naomi, “I will do whatever you say.” So she went down to the threshing floor in the middle of the night, approached quietly, uncovered his feet and lay down... “Who are you? He asked. “I am your servant Ruth. Spread the corner of your garment over me, since you are a kinsman-redeemer.” Boaz answered, “The Lord bless you my daughter. This kindness is greater than that which you showed earlier: You have not run after the younger men, whether rich or poor. Don’t be afraid. I will do all you ask.” Ruth 3

Kinsman Redeemer: Law of the Levirate Marriage: Dt. 25:5-10

If a man passes away without children the widow could go to the nearest kinsman and lay claim on him to bear children for her and her husbands name.

Three conditions:

- Be a near kinsman
- Able to perform
- Willing to perform

Is Boaz not concerned to take a gentile wife? Remember, his mother was Rahab, the harlot from Jericho. Mt. 1:5; Joshua 2-6

5. God **blessed** Ruth

“Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, “Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon. I have also acquired Mahlon’s widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from the town records.” Ruth 4:9-10

The family name was preserved. 28 generations after her great-grandson David, the Savior of the world would be born from her family line.