**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Redeeming Love |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Ruth 4 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #2091 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. The book of Ruth has a happy ending.
      1. It didn’t start happily.
      2. It began with a funeral, but it ends with a wedding.
      3. It began with a famine, but it ends with fullness.
      4. It began with weeping; but in this fourth and final chapter, joy has come.
         1. Psalm 30:5
   2. 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.
      1. Ruth was a Moabitess, and Boaz was an Israelite.
      2. Ruth was a stranger from a hateful nation that had a curse upon it. She was alienated from the commonwealth of Israel.
      3. Boaz redeemed her, brought her in and married her.
   3. The key word in Ruth 4 is redemption.
      1. The word “redemption” is used at least 15 times in this one chapter.
      2. Ruth 4:4
   4. 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)
   1. There were two laws from ancient Israel that come into play in Ruth 4.
      1. 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.
      2. 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.
      3. Therefore, there was a kinsman redeemer who could buy back the land and a kinsman who could marry the widow to raise up children.
      4. 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.
            1. 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.
      5. These qualifications picture our Redeeming Lord.
   2. Boaz was legally worthy.
      1. 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.
            1. The nearer kinsman who could not redeem represents Adam.
            2. We are all related to Adam.
            3. In Adam, we all die.
      2. 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.
            1. If we break the law in one point, we are guilty of all.
      3. 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.
            1. Hebrews 2:14
   3. Jesus is legally worthy.
      1. He had to redeem us as man in order to be our near kinsman.
      2. 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.
   4. Jesus is lavishly wealthy.
      1. Ruth 2:1
         1. Boaz was a mighty man of wealth.
      2. 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
      3. Jesus bought us back with His blood.
   5. Jesus was lovingly willing.
      1. Boaz did not have to buy Ruth, nor did the Lord Jesus have to buy us.
      2. He does not love us because we’re valuable; we’re valuable because He loves us.
      3. He loves us by His sheer grace, as Boaz loved Ruth before she ever knew his name.
      4. We love Him because He first loved us.
         1. 1 John 4:19
3. A PICTURE OF OUR RENEWED LIFE (Ruth 4:7-8)
   1. Ruth had three major problems; and without Christ, we share these same problems.
      1. Ephesians 2:12-13
      2. Her past was cursed.
         1. She was born a Moabite.
            1. She was an alien from the commonwealth of Israel.
            2. Ephesians 2:12
         2. She lived under a curse.
            1. Deuteronomy 23:3
            2. 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.
            1. So is the case with each of us.
            2. In Adam, we all die.
      3. Her present was crushed.
         1. Ephesians 2:12
            1. Ruth was a stranger to the things of God; she was without Christ.
            2. Her life was marked by tragedy and sorrow.
            3. The joys of a life with Christ were not hers.
      4. Her future was condemned.
         1. Ephesians 2:12
         2. Her future, without God, was hopeless.
   2. Ephesians 2:19
   3. 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.”
      1. 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.
      2. We are set free in Christ.
   4. Ruth 4:7-8
      1. As was the custom, the nearer kinsman, who could not redeem, took off his shoe and handed it to Boaz.
      2. 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.
      3. 2 Corinthians 5:21
4. A PICTURE OF OUR RESTORED LEGACY (Ruth 4:10-17)
   1. Ruth received a family.
      1. Ruth 4:10
      2. When we are saved, we become a part of the family of God.
   2. Ruth received a fortune.
      1. Ruth 4:10
      2. No longer is Ruth gleaning the fields; she owns the field. She shares in the wealth of Boaz.
      3. 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.
            1. Psalm 37:11
   3. Ruth received fame.
      1. Ruth 4:11
      2. Even today, the name of Ruth is spoken with reverence.
      3. If we know Jesus, we are part of royalty, married into the family of God.
   4. Ruth received fruitfulness.
      1. Ruth 4:11
         1. The word “Ephrahtah” means “fruitful.”
      2. John 15:16
   5. Ruth received a future.
      1. Ruth 4:16-17
      2. Ruth’s son, Obed, was the grandfather of David, the ancestry of our Lord Jesus Christ.
5. CONCLUSION
   1. If people only knew what they have in Christ Jesus, then we couldn’t keep them away from following Him.
   2. Jesus bought us with a great price.
   3. Just as Ruth was not ashamed of Boaz, neither should we be ashamed of Jesus Christ.
      1. Mark 8:38
   4. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   5. 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.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31