

## Ruth 3 Observations

September 17, 2023. **Ruth 3:1-5: Title – Ruth follows her mother-in-law’s advice to seek redemption / marriage from her deceased husband’s relative-redeemer.**

3:1. Who? Naomi to Ruth:

What did she say? “My daughter, should I not seek rest for you,

Why? that it may be well with you?

3:2. Who? Is not Boaz What? our relative, (*modáath*, [4130](#)) [kindred, kinship (OBU); used only here in the OT] Who? With whose young women you were?

What? See, he is winnowing barley When? Tonight Where? At the threshing floor.

3:3 What? Wash therefore and anoint yourself Why? To make herself as attractive as possible.

What? And put on your cloak

What? And go down Where? To the threshing floor,

What? But do not make yourself know to the man When? Until he has finished eating and drinking.

3:4. When? But when he lies down,

What? Observe the place where he lies.

Then what? Then go and uncover his feet

What else? And lie down,

Who? Boaz. What? And he will tell you what to do.

Why? It seems to me Naomi was asking Ruth secretly and privately to ask Boaz to be her Relative Redeemer.

3:5. Who? Ruth to Naomi. What did she reply? And she replied, “All that you say I will do.” So what? Ruth appears to be a gracious, committed, and submissive woman.

She submitted herself to her husband, Mahlon.

She submitted herself to her mother-in-law, Naomi.

She submitted herself to her husband's and his family's God

She was going to submit to an older man in marriage, on the advice of her mother-in-law.

**Ruth 3:6-9 Title: Ruth asks Boaz to be her Relative Redeemer.** September 19, 2023

3:6. Who? Ruth

What? So she went down Where? To the threshing floor.

What? And did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. ([2540](#), *tsavá*), Piel Perfect 3<sup>rd</sup> Feminine Singular). With the Piel this is an emphatic command.

3:7. When/Who? And when Boaz had eaten and drunk,

What? And his heart was merry,

What? He went to lie down

Where? At the end of the heap of grain.

Who / What / When? Then she came How? Softly?

What? And uncovered his feet

What? And lay down.

3:8. When? At midnight What? / Who? The man was startled

What else? And turned over,

What else? And behold, a woman lay at his feet!

3:9. Who? / What? He said, "Who are you?????"

Who? What? And she answered

What? "I am Ruth, your servant (*amáh*, [519](#)), "I. maid-servant, female slave, maid, handmaid, concubine A. of humility (figurative) ([OBU](#)); "your female slave" ([Accordance](#))

What? Spread ([Qal Perfect](#) 2 Masculine Singular of the verb (*parás*, [6566](#)), "spread out" ([Accordance](#)) your wings (the Feminine Singular Absolute of the noun *kanáf*, [3671](#)),

literally, “wing, end” ([Accordance](#)); “wing, extremity, edge, winged, border, corner, shirt” ([OBU](#)). This is a pun meaning both “your wing” and “corner of your garment” over your servant, (*amáh*, [519](#)), “I. maid-servant, **female slave**, maid, handmaid, concubine A. of humility (figurative) ([OBU](#)); “your **female slave**” ([Accordance](#)) for you are a redeemer. (The [Masculine](#) Singular [Qal Participle](#) in the [Absolute](#) Construction) of the verb *gáal’* ([1350](#)), “I to act as kinsman, do the part of next of kin, act as kinsman-redeemer a by marrying brother’s widow to beget a child for him, to redeem from slavery, to redeem land, to exact vengeance” (excerpted from [OBU](#)).

**So what?** There is an important application here. Like Ruth, all of us humans stand in need of the services of a relative-redeemer. We all need redemption. We are dead in our trespasses and sins (Eph. 2:1). Out of great love for us, even though we were sinners and enemies of God (Rom. 5:8, 10), God sent the Messiah to pay the purchase price for the redemption of all humanity. Jesus, like Boaz, is able to redeem us and willing to redeem us. But He, like Boaz, will not actually redeem us unless we ask. Have you asked Jesus to redeem you (John 1:11-13)?

September 19, 2023

### **Ruth 3:10-13. Title: Boaz Agrees in Principle to Redeem Ruth**

3:10. Who? Boaz. What? And he said,

“May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter

Why? “You have made this last kindness greater than the first How so? “In that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich.”

What is the first kindness? Constable thinks it was staying with Boaz’ maids and working in his fields. That seems improbable to me. More likely it was her loyal love in adopting Mahlon as her husband, her loyalty to Naomi, to Naomi’s God, Naomi’s country, and Naomi’s people.

3:11. What else did Boaz say?

And now, my daughter, What? “Do not fear.”

Why? I will do for you all that you ask,

Why? “For all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman” NASB – a woman of excellence. *Chayil* ([2428](#)): Expanding on the idea of “excellence,” or “worthy,” I believe the word signifies that Ruth was “a God-fearing woman of initiative, industry, and determination,” as I pointed out in the note on Ruth 2:1.

September 21, 2023

3:12. What more? And now it is true that I am a redeemer – (The [Masculine](#) Singular [Qal Participle](#) in the [Absolute](#) Construction) of the verb *gáal'* (1350), “I to act as kinsman, do the part of next of kin, act as kinsman-redeemer a by marrying brother’s widow to beget a child for him, to redeem from slavery, to redeem land, to exact vengeance” (excerpted from [OBU](#)).

What else? But there is a redeemer – (The [Masculine](#) Singular [Qal Participle](#) in the [Absolute](#) Construction) of the verb *gáal'* (1350), “redeem” – “I to act as kinsman, do the part of next of kin, act as kinsman-redeemer a by marrying brother’s widow to beget a child for him, to redeem from slavery, to redeem land, to exact vengeance” (excerpted from [OBU](#)) – nearer than I

3:13. What else? Remain How long? Tonight,

When? And in the morning

What? If he will redeem you – the [Qal Imperfect](#) 3 [Masculine](#) Singular of the verb *gáal'* (1350), “to redeem” – “I to act as kinsman, do the part of next of kin, act as kinsman-redeemer a by marrying brother’s widow to beget a child for him, to redeem from slavery, to redeem land, to exact vengeance” (excerpted from [OBU](#))

What? Good. Let him do it. Literally, “Good. Let him redeem.” – the [Qal Imperfect](#) 3 [Masculine](#) Singular of the verb *gáal'* (1350), “to redeem” – “I to act as kinsman, do the part of next of kin, act as kinsman-redeemer a by marrying brother’s widow to beget a child for him, to redeem from slavery, to redeem land, to exact vengeance” (excerpted from [OBU](#))

But what else? But if he is not willing to redeem you – the [Qal Infinitive in the Absolute Construction](#) of the verb *gáal'* (1350), “to redeem” – “I to act as kinsman, do the part of next of kin, act as kinsman-redeemer a by marrying brother’s widow to beget a child for him, to redeem from slavery, to redeem land, to exact vengeance” (excerpted from [OBU](#))

Then what? (When?) How serious is he? As the LORD lives,

What? I will redeem you. – the [Qal Perfect](#) 1 Singular of the verb *gáal'* (1350), “to redeem” – “I to act as kinsman, do the part of next of kin, act as kinsman-redeemer a by marrying brother’s widow to beget a child for him, to redeem from slavery, to redeem land, to exact vengeance” (excerpted from [OBU](#))

What else? Lie down ([Qal Imperf.](#) 2<sup>nd</sup> Singular [Feminine](#) of the verb *shakáb* (7901)

When? Until the morning

September 22, 2023

**Ruth 3:14-18. Title: Through Ruth, Boaz Communicates to Naomi that He is Serious about Redeeming Ruth.**

What did Ruth do? V. 14. So she lay at his feet

How long? Until the morning.

What did she do then? But arose before one could recognize another.

V. 14. What did Boaz say? And he said, “Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor.”

V. 15. What else did he say? And he said, “Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out.”

V. 15. What did Ruth do? So she held it,

V. 15. What did Boaz do? And he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her.

Why did he do this? This was sort of a mini-dowry payment to Naomi, an assurance that he was serious about keeping his promise about taking the necessary steps to marry Ruth(!)

V. 15. What did Ruth do? Then she went into the city.

V. 16. When? And when she came to her mother-in-law,

V. 16. What did Naomi say? She said, “How did you fare, my daughter?”

V. 16. What did Ruth reply? Then she told her all that the man had done for her,

V. 17. What did Ruth say to Naomi? Saying, “These six measures of barley he gave to me,

V. 17. What had Boaz told her? For he said to me, ‘You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.’”

V. 18. What did Naomi reply? She replied,

“Wait my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out,

for the man will not rest

but will settle the matter today.”

What is the significance of Naomi's comment?

Boaz' giving Ruth so much grain to carry home had its desired effect on Naomi. Naomi understood Boaz' gesture to mean that he was serious about doing everything he could to redeem Ruth.