

Analysis of

RUTH

"RELATIVE-REDEMPTION"

9 And he [Boaz] said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth your maid. So spread your covering over your maid, for you are a **close relative**." 12 [Boaz said,] "And now it is true I am a **close relative**; however, there is a **relative** closer than I. 13 Remain this night, and when morning comes, if he will **redeem** you, good; let him **redeem** you. But if he does not wish to **redeem** you, then I will **redeem** you, as the Lord lives. Lie down until morning."
(Ruth 3:9, 12-13)

Analysis of RUTH

Prepared by James T. Bartsch

April, 1992

WordExplain.com

P. O. Box 527

Cottonwood Falls, Kansas 66845

Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*®,
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation.
Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)

RUTH

"RELATIVE-REDEMPTION"

9 And he [Boaz] said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth your maid. So spread your covering over your maid, for you are a **close relative**." 12 [Boaz said,] "And now it is true I am a **close relative**; however, there is a **relative** closer than I. 13 Remain this night, and when morning comes, if he will **redeem** you, good; let him **redeem** you. But if he does not wish to **redeem** you, then I will **redeem** you, as the Lord lives. Lie down until morning."
(Ruth 3:9, 12-13)

A1 GOD'S SOVEREIGN WORKING TO CAUSE DEPENDENCY ON HIMSELF 1

B1 Disruptive Forces 1:1-5

- C1 The famine in Israel 1:1a
- C2 The departure to Moab 1:1b-2
- C3 The death of Elimelech 1:3
- C4 The marriages to the Moabitesses 1:4
- C5 The deaths of Mahlon and Chilion 1:5

B2 Returning Choices 1:6-18

- C1 Naomi's initiation of a return to Judah 1:6-7
- C2 Naomi's dissuasion of Orpah from moving to Judah 1:8-14a
- C3 Ruth's adamant choice of Naomi, her God and her people 1:14b-18
- C4 Naomi's bittersweet return to Bethlehem 1:19-22
 - D1 The return to Bethlehem 1:19
 - D2 The stir in the city
 - D3 The attitude of Naomi 1:20-21
 - E1 Her request 1:20a
 - E2 Her reason 1:20b-21
 - D4 The time of the return 1:22

A2 GOD'S SOVEREIGN ASSISTANCE OF RUTH'S PROVISION FOR NAOMI 2

B1 Ruth's "Coincidental" Selection of Boaz' Field in Which to Harvest 2:1-3

- C1 Naomi's in-law, Boaz 2:1
- C2 Ruth's request to glean 2:2
- C3 Ruth's chance arrival in Boaz' field 2:3

B2 Boaz' Inquiry about Ruth Following His Timely Return from Bethlehem 2:4-7

- C1 Boaz' arrival from Bethlehem 2:4
- C2 Boaz' greetings with his workers
- C3 Boaz' curiosity about Ruth 2:5-7
 - D1 His question 2:5
 - D2 His foreman's reply 2:6-7
 - E1 Her identity 2:6
 - E2 Her request 2:7
 - E3 Her activities

B3 Boaz' Invitation to Ruth to Harvest in His Fields 2:8-13

- C1 Boaz' offer 2:8-9
 - D1 His request for her to work in his field 2:8-9a
 - D2 His offer of water 2:9b
- C2 Ruth's incredulity 2:10
- C3 Boaz' explanation 2:11-12
 - D1 His awareness of her commitment 2:11
 - D2 His prayer for God's reward 2:12
- C4 Ruth's appreciation 2:13

B4 Boaz' Provision of Additional Favors for Ruth 2:14-17

- C1 His provision of a meal 2:14
- C2 His instructions to his servants 2:15-16
 - D1 To allow her to glean among the sheaves 2:15
 - D2 To leave loose grain for her 2:16
- C3 Ruth's diligent work until evening 2:17

B5 Naomi's Grateful Reception of Ruth's Report 2:18-23

- C1 Ruth's delivery of the grain to Naomi 2:18
- C2 Naomi's surprise 2:19-20
 - D1 Her inquiry as to the benefactor's identity 2:19
 - D2 Her prayer of blessing upon Boaz 2:20a
 - D3 Her recognition of a relative (*goel*) 2:20b
- C3 Naomi's advice 2:21-23
 - D1 Boaz' invitation 2:21
 - D2 Naomi's agreement 2:22
 - D3 Ruth's continuing work 2:23

A3 GOD'S MOTIVATION OF NAOMI'S PROVISION FOR RUTH 3

B1 Naomi's Instruction to Ruth to Request Redemption from her Relative-Redeemer, Boaz 3:1-5

- C1 Naomi's decision: to seek security (i.e. marriage) for Ruth 3:1
- C2 Naomi's reason: Boaz their relative 3:2a
- C3 Naomi's timing: Threshing time 3:2b

C4 Naomi's plan 3:3-4

D1 Preparation 3:3a

D2 Destination 3:3b

D3 Hesitation 3:3c

D4 Encounter 3:4

C5 Ruth's willingness 3:5

B2 Ruth's Obedient Request of Boaz at the Threshing Floor 3:6-9

C1 Her compliance 3:6

D1 Her arrival at the threshingfloor

D2 Her doing all her mother-in-law commanded her

C2 Boaz' actions 3:7

D1 His mealtime

D2 His merry attitude

D3 His retiring for the night

C3 Ruth's stealth 3:8

D1 Her secret coming

D2 Her uncovering of his feet

D3 Her lying down at his feet

C4 Boaz' surprise 3:8-9

D1 The time: middle of the night 3:8

D2 His startled awakening

D3 His shock at seeing a woman at his feet

D4 His inquiry as to her identity 3:9

C5 Ruth's response 3:9

D1 Her reply: "I'm Ruth, your maid"

D2 Her request: "Spread your covering over your maid"

D3 Her reason: "For you are a close relative." ¹

B3 Boaz' Agreement in Principle to Redeem Ruth in Marriage 3:10-15

C1 Boaz' nighttime reply 3:10-13

D1 His pleasure 3:10

E1 His blessing her

E2 His referring to her kindness in not going after a younger man

D2 His agreement 3:11

E1 His asking her not to fear

E2 His willingness to do all she asked

E3 His reason: Her reputation in the town as being a woman of excellence

D3 His caution: a relative nearer than he 3:12

D4 His resolve 3:13

C2 Boaz' gift 3:14-15

D1 The early rising 3:14

D2 Six measures of barley 3:15

¹ 3:9 - close relative: "Kinsman"; "to redeem (according to the Oriental law of kinship, i.e. to be the next of kin (and as such to buy back a relative's property, marry his widow, etc.):...avenger, deliver, (do, perform the part of near, next) kinsfolk, purchase, ransom, redeem, revenger." 1350 ga'al. Found in Ruth 3:9,12,12,13,13,13, 4:1,3,6,8, 14

B4 Ruth's Report to Naomi 3:16-18

- C1 Naomi's question 3:16
- C2 Ruth's reply 3:17
- C3 Naomi's shrewd assessment 3:18

A4 GOD'S MOTIVATION OF BOAZ' PROVISION FOR RUTH AND NAOMI 4

B1 Boaz' Redemption of Ruth 4:1-12

- C1 Boaz' offering the right of redemption to a nearer relative 4:1-4
 - D1 Boaz' preparation 4:1-2
 - E1 His trip to the city gate 4:1
 - E2 His calling aside the relative 4:1
 - E3 His calling aside ten elders of the city 4:2
 - D2 Boaz' explanation of the situation 4:3-4
 - E1 Naomi's need to sell land belonging to Elimelech 4:3
 - E2 The closer relative's option to redeem the land 4:4
 - D3 The closer relative's decision to redeem the land 4:4
- C2 Boaz' reminder of the obligation of marrying Ruth 4:5
 - D1 The requirement of marriage
 - D2 The purpose of marriage: to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance
- C3 The relative's refusal 4:6
 - D1 The fact of refusal
 - D2 The reason for refusal: "lest I jeopardize my own inheritance"
 - D3 The relinquishing of redemption

C4 The legal contract 4:7-12

D1 The legal explanation: the giving of the sandal 4:7

D2 The closer relative's transfer of the property to Boaz: the giving of the sandal 4:8

D3 Boaz' address to the elders and the people 4:9-10

E1 His calling them to witness his buying Naomi's land 4:9

E2 His calling them to witness his marriage to Ruth to raise up the name of the deceased on his inheritance 4:10

D4 The reaction of the people and the elders 4:11-12

E1 Their acknowledgment of their role as witnesses 4:11

E2 Their blessings 4:11-12

F1 May Ruth be like Rachel and Leah 4:11

F2 May Boaz achieve wealth and fame

F3 May your house be like the house of Perez 4:12

B2 God's Blessing of Boaz, Ruth and Naomi 4:13-22 (and Matt. 1:1-16)

C1 Short-term blessing 4:13-17

D1 Yahweh's enabling Ruth to conceive and bear a son 4:13

E1 Boaz' marriage to Ruth

E2 The Lord's enabling Ruth to conceive

E3 The birth of her son

D2 The women's acknowledgment of Yahweh's provision of a redeemer for Naomi to care for her in her old age 4:14-16

E1 The women's blessing of the Lord 4:14

E2 Their realization that God had provided Naomi a redeemer

- E3 Their requests 4:14-15
 - F1 That the redeemer's name might become famous in Israel 4:14
 - F2 That the boy might be to her a restorer of life and a sustainer of her old age 4:15
- E4 Their respect for Ruth 4:15
 - G1 Their acknowledgment of Ruth's love for Naomi
 - G2 Their assessment of Ruth's worth: better than seven sons!
- E5 Naomi's care of the baby 4:16
- D3 The women's naming the baby Obed 4:17
- D4 The baby's significance as the ancestor of King David 4:17
- C2 Long-term blessing 4:18-22 (and Matt. 1:1-16)
 - D1 The ancestry of David, Israel's great king 4:18-22
 - D2 The ancestry of Jesus the Messiah, Israel's greatest King (Matt. 1:1-16)

Analysis of RUTH

Prepared by James T. Bartsch
 April, 1992

WordExplain.com
 P. O. Box 527
 Cottonwood Falls, Kansas 66845
 Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com