

## **The Long Awaited Reward (Ruth 4: 1-22) (I)**

- Ch 3 Ruth discovers that there is another kinsman redeemer in line to Boaz
- Another bigger picture is unfolding before our eyes, a future king for Israel
- So this is not just a story of God's covenant faithfulness to Ruth and Naomi
- This is also a story about God's covenant faithfulness to His people Israel.
- Israel hasn't thought about asking God for a king yet, it's the time of the judges
- In His sovereignty & faithful love God was already preparing His choice king

### **I. A Nameless Man**

- 4:1-2 shows Boaz wasted no time in seeking a resolution on Ruth's behalf
- At the town gates a nameless kinsmen redeemer comes to the fore
- Boaz brings the matter of Naomi & Ruth before the elders of the city (4:3-4)
- Initially this nameless Kinsmen redeemer desired the property he might inherit
- Boaz then tells him about Ruth the Moabitess who goes with the land (4:5)
- Immediately the kinsmen redeemer has a change of mind (4: 6) and backs away
- If there were to be a child from the relationship with Ruth, the redeemer would lose the field & there would be no benefit to his own children & estate
- Boaz took a more sacrificial approach leaving a legacy for another (4:7-8)
- The result: the line of Boaz & Ruth would include, Obed, Jesse, then David

### **II. God's Logic**

- The book of Ruth shows God's logic & our logic are worlds apart
- This nameless man clung to what he had and thus lost something far greater
- Naomi lost everything she had been clinging to but this loss was God's plan
- She had to lose everything to come to appreciate Ruth's worth & God's love
- Boaz trusted God to give him a good name rather than protect his reputation

### **III. Boaz's Reward**

- Boaz not motivated by the praise of others but he receives blessing (4: 11,12)
- For 10 years Ruth was barren, now with God's help she bares Boaz a son (13)
- There was comfort for Naomi (4: 14,15) closes with a touching scene (16,17)

### **IV. The Panoramic View**

- Ruth opens with 'in the days when the judges ruled' (1:1) closes with genealogy of Israel's chosen king. God's faithfulness reaches to the skies -- Jesus!