



A Man on a Mission

Ruth 4:1-12

Chapter 4 of Ruth begins with Boaz on a mission to secure a marriage to Ruth. Throughout this chapter we see the character of Boaz shine as he confidently and carefully negotiates a deal for his bride.

Boaz initiates the redemption (4:1-2)

Boaz acts _____ (Ruth 3:13, 18; 4:1).

Boaz realizes the seriousness of this matter and makes it a point to deal with the situation immediately.

Boaz acts _____ (Ruth 4:1-2).

Boaz's actions in the first few verses are determined. He "just happens" to come across the kinsman, and then instructs him to sit and rounds up 10 elders (rulers) of the village, instructing them to sit.

Boaz fights for the redemption (4:3-8)

Boaz gives his first _____ (4:3-4)

Boaz tells the kinsman know Naomi is seeking to sell some of her land and asks if the kinsman is interested. Boaz lets him has the first option to buy, but if he does not want to buy then Boaz would be interested. The kinsman agrees to buy it

Boaz gives his second _____ (4:5)

After the kinsman agrees to purchase the land, Boaz raises the stakes by reminding the nearer kinsman of his responsibility to marry Ruth.



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After the kinsman agrees to purchase the land, Boaz raises the stakes by reminding the nearer kinsman of his responsibility to marry Ruth.

Since Ruth is still able to have children, as the one closest enough to buy the land the kinsman is also the one who should marry Ruth to produce an heir. This changes the picture drastically. If there is an heir to inherit the land who is considered of Elimelech's line, then the kinsman's other children, if he had any, would not end up inheriting the land. Not only that, but the kinsman will also need to take care of both Ruth and Naomi now, which would mean two more mouths to feed. Boaz has shown careful wisdom working through how best to appeal his case.

The kinsman _____ his claim (5:6-8)

Once Boaz raises the stakes and combines marrying Ruth and the land, the kinsman gets nervous and backs out. This section shows us that Boaz did everything by the book; he didn't cheat or deceive anyone, and the "court" approved of his actions and stood as witnesses.

Boaz celebrates the redemption (4:9-12)

Boaz _____ his redemption (4:9-10).

Boaz confidently declares that he will acquire all Elimelech's land and will marry Ruth the Moabitess. Boaz proudly proclaims that he will be marrying Ruth knowing full well where she is from (Ruth 4:10).

The elders _____ Boaz's redemption (4:11-12).

Boaz's actions are honorable, and those around him can see that character shining through and find it worth celebrating, wishing that the Lord himself bless with Boaz with children by Ruth.

Ruth is a short but a powerful story. It gives us vivid characters, a twisting, turning plot, and a happy ending. But there are important lessons for us about God's dealing with disobedient children; about honor, integrity, and faithfulness; and about the kindness of God that should flow through us.

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