



**A Second Chance at Redemption
(Ruth 4:12-22)**

Ruth 4:11-12

- **11** Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem,
- **12** and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring that the LORD will give you by this young woman."

Ruth 4:13-15

- **13** So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son.
- **14** Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel!
- **15** He shall be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is more to you than seven sons, has given birth to him."

Ruth 4:16-17

¹⁶ Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her lap and became his nurse.

¹⁷ And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi." They named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Ruth 4:18-22

- **18** Now these are the generations of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron,
- **19** Hezron fathered Ram, Ram fathered Amminadab,
- **20** Amminadab fathered Nahshon, Nahshon fathered Salmon,
- **21** Salmon fathered Boaz, Boaz fathered Obed,
- **22** Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

I. A Family's Celebration

A. Blessings upon Boaz and Ruth

B. Blessings upon Naomi

C. The future king in the family: David

II. A Family's Checkered Past

A. Tamar and Judah (Ruth 4:12a)

¹² and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah,

II. A Family's Checkered Past

• B. Summary of Genesis 38

- Judah marries a Canaanite woman and has three sons: Er, Onan, Shelah
- Er marries Tamar; Er dies; Onan marries Tamar but shuns his role as *levir* “brother-in-law”
- Onan dies; Judah promises Shelah for Tamar
- Judah fails to fulfill role as *goel* (“kinsman-redeemer”) by not fulfilling promise to Tamar (II.C.)
- Judah’s wife eventually dies; Judah goes to sheep-shearing
- Tamar wears veil and sits by city gate waiting for Judah to challenge Judah to fulfill promise
- Judah mistakes Tamar for a prostitute; promises payment of a goat; Tamar requires earnest payment of Judah’s “signet, cord, and staff”
- Tamar is impregnated by Judah
- Later, when Judah sends goat, Tamar is nowhere to be found
- Three months later, Judah is told Tamar is pregnant; Judah orders her burned for immorality
- Tamar declares “By the man to whom these [items] belong I am pregnant”
- **Judah is humbled: “She is more righteous than I, since I did not give her to my son Shelah” (III. A.)**
- Tamar gives birth to twins, Perez (firstborn) and Zerah

III. God Offers Second Chances at Redemption

- **B. Judah fulfills role as kinsman-redeemer**
- “And Judah said to Israel his father, “Send the boy [Benjamin] with me [to return to Egypt for grain] and we will arise and go, that we may live and not die, both we and you and also our little ones. **I will be a pledge of his safety.**” (Genesis 43:8)

III. God Offers Second Chances at Redemption

- **C. Jacob's blessings upon Judah**

- “Judah, your brothers shall praise you;
your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies;
your father's sons shall bow down before you.
⁹ Judah is a lion's cub;
from the prey, my son, you have gone up.
He stooped down; he crouched as a lion
and as a lioness; who dares rouse him?
¹⁰ The scepter shall not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,
until tribute comes to him;
and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples. (Genesis 49:8-10)

III. God Offers Second Chances at Redemption

- **D. Boaz fulfills his role as kinsman-redeemer** (*goel*)
- “do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. ¹² And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. ¹³ Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. **But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the LORD lives, I will redeem you.**” (Ruth 3:11-13)

IV. Takeaways: Who Needs a Redeemer?

A. Those who do not know Jesus as Savior and Lord

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. (Romans 3:23-25)

IV. Takeaways: Who Needs a Redeemer?

B. Those who do know Jesus as Savior and Lord

1. Taking stock of our (daily) shortcomings

²² Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed,
for his compassions never fail.

²³ They are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness. (Lamentations 3:22-23)

2. Celebrating our (daily) redemptions

“Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” (Mark 5:19)

Let Us Pray

