

Boaz Will Redeem Ruth

3:1 **T**HEN Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, “My daughter, shall I not seek ¹security for you, that it may be well with you? 2 “And now is not Boaz ^aour ¹kinsman, with whose maids you were? Behold, he winnows barley at the threshing floor tonight. 3 “Wash yourself therefore, and anoint yourself and put on your *best* clothes, and go down to the threshing floor; *but* do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. 4 “And it shall be when he lies down, that you shall ¹notice the place where he lies, and you shall go and uncover his feet and lie down; then he will tell you what you shall do.” 5 And she said to her, “^aAll that you say I will do.”

6 So she went down to the threshing floor and did according to all that her mother-in-law had commanded her. 7 When Boaz had eaten and drunk and ^ahis heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain; and she came secretly, and uncovered his feet and lay down. 8 And it happened in the middle of the night that the man was startled and ¹bent forward; and behold, a woman was lying at his feet. 9 And he said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth your maid. So spread your covering over your maid, for you are a ¹close relative.” 10 Then he said, “^aMay you be blessed of the LORD, my daughter. You have shown your last kindness to be better than the first by not going after young men, whether poor or rich. 11 “And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you whatever you ¹ask, for all my people in the ²city know that you are ^aa woman of excellence. 12 “And now it is true I am a ¹close relative; however, there is a ¹relative closer than I. 13 “Remain this night, and when morning comes, ^aif he will ¹redeem you, good; let him redeem you. But if he does not wish to ¹redeem you, then I will redeem you, ^bas the LORD lives. Lie down until morning.”

14 So she lay at his feet until morning and rose before one could recognize another; and he said, “^aLet it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor.” 15 Again he said, “Give me the cloak that is on you and hold it.” So she held it, and he measured six *measures* of barley and laid *it* on her. Then ¹she went into the city. 16 And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, “¹How did it go, my daughter?” And she told her all that the man had done for her. 17 And she said, “These six *measures* of barley he gave to me, for he said, ‘Do not go to your mother-in-law empty-handed.’” 18 Then she said, “Wait, my daughter, until you know how the matter ¹turns out; for the man will not rest until he has ²settled it today.”

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¹ Lit., *rest*

^a Deut. 25:5-10

¹ Or, *acquaintance*

¹ Lit., *know*

^a Eph. 6:1; Col. 3:20

^a Judg. 19:6, 9; 2 Sam. 13:28; 1 Kin. 21:7; Esth. 1:10

¹ Lit., *twisted himself*

¹ Or, *redeemer*

^a Ruth 2:20

¹ Lit., *say*

² Lit., *gate*

^a Prov. 12:4; 31:10

¹ Or, *redeemer*

¹ Or, *redeemer*

^a Deut. 25:5; Matt. 22:24

¹ Or, *act as close relative to*

¹ Or, *act as close relative to*

^b Judg. 8:19; Jer. 4:2; 12:16

^a Rom. 14:16; 2 Cor. 8:21

¹ So with many mss.; M.T., *he*

¹ Lit., *Who are you?*

¹ Lit., *falls*

² Lit., *finished the matter*

ⁱ *The New American Standard Bible*, (La Habra, California: The Lockman Foundation) 1977.