



Big Idea: Redemption is where perfect love and justice meet.

Saved by the Redeemer's Love (v. 3:9-18)

- Boaz's love for Ruth is seen in His delight over her, in his free choice to redeem her, and in his protection and provision.
- Boaz's love for Ruth reflects Christ's love for the church.

Saved by the Redeemer's Righteousness

-- Righteousness isn't **Easy.**

- There is another redeemer in the way of Ruth's redemption.
- Boaz involves this man because it is the right thing to do.
- Following Christ means doing what is right even when it hurts.

-- Righteousness is **Proactive (v. 1).**

- Boaz instantly gets busy doing the right thing.
- While prudence is holy, passivity is not. When you know the right thing to do, get it done! (Ephesians 5:15-16)

-- Righteousness is **Respected(v. 1-2).**

- Notice how much everyone at the city gate seems to respect Boaz.
- Even though the secular world is predisposed to prejudge Christians, still it cannot help but respect righteous people.

-- Righteousness is **Thorough (v. 3-11).**

- v. 4:3-4 - Boaz could not act as Ruth's kinsman-redeemer without dealing with this other redeemer first.

-- v. 4:3-11 – Boaz is extremely careful to obey the Law thoroughly in the presence of witnesses.

-- Righteousness can be **Shrewd** (v. 4-5).

-- Righteousness is **Selfless** (v. 6-10).

-- This unnamed man seems to be thinking only of himself.

-- v. 7-8 – Sealing the deal with a sandal declared the man's selfishness (Deuteronomy 25:7-10).

-- v. 10 – Boaz, on the other hand, acts selflessly.

The Bigger Picture

-- This unnamed redeemer is an image of the **Law**.

-- The Law, like the unnamed kinsman-redeemer in the text, stands in the way of our redemption.

-- The Law is helpless to redeem sinners (Romans 3:20, 5:20, 7:7).

-- This scene is an image of **Our** redemption.

-- Like Boaz to Ruth, Christ does all the work of our redemption when we call upon Him in faith (v. 3:18, Titus 3:4-5).

-- Even as Boaz dealt righteously with the nearer redeemer, so Christ came to fulfill the Law on our account (Mat. 5:17, Rom. 8:3-4).

-- Even as Boaz forfeited his estate to redeem Ruth so Christ forfeited heavenly glory for a time to become our kinsman-redeemer (Philippians 2:5-8).

-- Our redemption is about a love made complete by **Justice**.

-- To be perfect in love, God must be perfect in justice.

-- Since justice demands that sin be punished, Jesus was punished on the cross in our place.

-- Even as Boaz guaranteed Ruth's redemption by fulfilling the Law of kinsman-redeemers, so our redemption is secured by Christ's perfection in fulfilling the Law.

-- Redemption is found in **Christ** alone because it is in Him alone that perfect love and justice meet.