



THE MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting

November 10

Our Next Gospel Meeting

October 6-11

Weekly Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday at 2 pm

Times of Service

Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

First Friday of Month

Singing

October 4

Address and Contact

University Heights Church of Christ

445 Columbia Ave., Lexington,
KY 40508

(859) 255-6257

www.uheightschurch.com

“MORE THAN SEVEN SONS”

As we conclude this short series of articles on the book of Ruth, I'd ask you to take a moment to read 3:1-9. As we said in the previous article, this strange action by Ruth is her essentially asking Boaz to marry her. This would be the practical result of his serving as redeemer in this case.

His response is found in 3:10. “May you be blessed by the Lord, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after younger men, whether rich or poor.” This exclamation highlights yet again the sterling character of Ruth. Remember that she had been under no obligation to travel to Bethlehem with Naomi. She was not an Israelite and Bethlehem was not the place of her people. She went anyway. She was also under no obligation to marry within Elimelech's family. She could have pursued any available bachelor who took her fancy. Besides that, Boaz seems to have been substantially older than her. She was willing to marry within Elimelech's family anyway. Further, she was under no obligation to provide the family of Elimelech with an heir to the land. (4:3-5) She was willing to do this, as well. She truly was a remarkable young woman, wasn't she?

Regarding Boaz, Naomi predicted that “the man will not rest but will see the matter settled today.” (3:18) She was correct. Though Boaz desperately wanted Ruth as his wife, it wasn't quite that simple. There was a male family member who was a closer relative to Elimelech than Boaz. That man had the right of first refusal, so to speak.

Boaz gathered everyone necessary to see the matter settled. Take a moment to read 4:1-12. When the redeemer with the

Members Needing Our Prayers

Ron and Sharon Tirey, Julie Patton, Deremia Osbourne, Ralph Fox, Jill Harrison, Joyce Bolton, Rick Small, Benny and Arlena Poynter, Gary Brown, Janett Brundige, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

Others Needing Prayer

Stuart Goodpasture, Jodi Harrison, Bob Brundige, Rose Curtis, Josh McKibben, Phyllis Harmon, Maurice Baker, Jeff Padgett, John Thompson, Georgia Patton, Glenda Miller, Patty Hill, Janice Parsons, Mark Nickles, Paul and Marrian Lyda

To Our Guests

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first claim learned that taking the land would bring Ruth along with it, he refused. This was not a mark against Ruth, but a concern about his own inheritance. After his refusal, Boaz stated his intention to take both the land and Ruth as wife. It was met with universal approval and prayers for God's blessings upon the union.

Ruth bore Boaz a son which occasioned great rejoicing in Naomi and the women of the city. (4:13-17) In their words, we find yet another wonderful commendation of Ruth. "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." The child's name was Obed. "He was the father of Jesse, the father of David." (4:17b)

I do not know if David had the opportunity to meet his grandparents. Boaz may have passed on by David's time as he seems much older than Ruth. Ruth, however, may have been living within the very house in which David was raised. If he did know them, or grew up hearing stories about them, then David knew he had some wonderful people within his family. It is such a blessing to have parents and grandparents who genuinely love the Lord and one another.

What a wonderful little book! I pray that these articles have been a benefit to you.
Adam Litmer

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
Adam Litmer	Marcus Lake	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	James Weatherholt	

