

THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF REDEMPTION

INTRODUCTION

In **Ruth 4:1–12**, we will see 3 essential marks of a biblical marriage that should lead us to appreciate the beauty of God’s plan for marital union and the beauty of His relationship with His People

1. Marriage Requires Initiative (1–6)
2. Marriage Requires Commitment (7–10)
3. Marriage Results in Blessing (11–12)

1) MARRIAGE REQUIRES INITIATIVE (1–6)

“Boaz went up to the gate” (v. 1)

Zechariah 8:16

Proverbs 22:22

Proverbs 31:23

“friend” (v. 1) = “so-and-so”

Hebrew: *peloni*;

Arabic: *fulan*;

Spanish/Portuguese: *fulano*;

English: *fellow*

poetic justice: by refusing to preserve the memory of name of Elimelech and Mahlon, the closest relative will go down in history as a nameless John Doe.

Boaz’s strategy: good news followed by bad news (vv. 3–5)

Deuteronomy 25:5–10

the letter of the law VS the spirit of the law

obedience VS benevolence

“jeopardize my own inheritance” (v. 6)

2) MARRIAGE REQUIRES COMMITMENT (7–10)

“removed his sandal” (v. 7)

this voluntary gesture seems to be a variation of Deuteronomy 25:9

“You are witnesses today” (vv. 9, 10)

Redemption demands self-denial, willingness to pay the price, and commitment.

3) MARRIAGE RESULTS IN BLESSING (11–12)

“like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel”

marriage has a purpose that goes beyond the happiness of the couple.

“achieve wealth” (v. 11) = “act virtuously”

“Perez...Tamar...Judah” (v. 12)

Genesis 38: Boaz redeems a family history of failure to fulfill the levirate responsibility

CONCLUSION

Marriage is not only for our pleasure or safety. Marriage serves to communicate an image of the gospel of Jesus Christ, who redeemed us to have a relationship with God.

We should get married and remain married out of interest...

...to bless and serve our spouse

...to lead others to see the gospel and give glory to God