

The background of the image is a vast field of golden wheat, with individual stalks and heads clearly visible in the foreground. The sky above is a deep, warm orange, filled with soft, billowing clouds that catch the light of the setting or rising sun. The overall mood is peaceful and nostalgic.

# RUTH

*a love story*





RUTH

*God's Covenantal  
Love*



# THE BOOK OF RUTH

Theme:

Divine loyal love in the midst of bleakness

~ Hope in God's loyal love!

# THE BOOK OF RUTH

*Chesed (\*hesed)*

= loyal lovingkindness;  
mercy;

faithful goodness

Ruth 1:8; 2:20; 3:10



# THE BOOK OF RUTH

*Chesed (\*hesed)*

Psalm 23:6

Sure goodness and *chesed* shall follow me  
all the days of my life...

# THE BOOK OF RUTH

*Chesed (\*hesed)*

- God to Man ~ loyal covenantal love & favor
  - a. Abrahamic Covenant: Genesis 24:12
  - b. Sinaitic Covenant: Deut. 7:9
  - c. Davidic Covenant: Ps. 89:1



# THE BOOK OF RUTH

*Chesed (\*hesed)*

Psalm 136 ~ 26x

“...for his mercy (*chesed*) endureth for ever.”

## **RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE**

- Divine loyal love far exceeds human love  
Trust in God’s loyal love and  
receive His reward



# **RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE**

Divine loyal love far exceeds human love.

- Trust God’s loyal love when people around us fail (1-10)

# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 4:1 – Mr. Nameless

Then went Boaz up to the gate, and sat him down there: and, behold, the kinsman of whom Boaz spake came by; unto whom he said, Ho, such a one! turn aside, sit down here.



# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 4:3-4 – Mr. Nameless

And he said unto the kinsman, Naomi, that is come again out of the country of Moab, selleth a parcel of land, which was our brother Elimelech's: And I thought to advertise thee, saying, Buy it before the inhabitants, and before the elders of my people. If thou wilt redeem it, redeem it: but if thou wilt not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know: for there is none to redeem it beside thee; and I am after thee. And he said, I will redeem it.

# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 4:5-6

Then said Boaz, What day thou buyest the field of the hand of Naomi, thou must buy it also of Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance.



## LEVIRATE MARRIAGE

- “levir” = husband’s brother (*latin*)

- Deuteronomy 25: 5-6

If brethren dwell together, and one of them die, and have no child, the wife of the dead shall not marry without unto a stranger: her husband's brother shall go in unto her, and take her to him to wife, and perform the duty of an husband's brother unto her. And it shall be, that the firstborn which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother which is dead, that his name be not put out of Israel.

# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 4:5-6

And the kinsman said, I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I mar mine own inheritance: redeem thou my right to thyself; for I cannot redeem it..



## LEVIRATE MARRIAGE

- “levir” = husband’s brother (*latin*)

- Deuteronomy 25: 7-10

And if the man like not to take his brother's wife, then let his brother's wife go up to the gate unto the elders, and say, My husband's brother refuseth to raise up unto his brother a name in Israel, he will not perform the duty of my husband's brother. Then the elders of his city shall call him, and speak unto him: and if he stand to it, and say, I like not to take her;

## LEVIRATE MARRIAGE

- “levir” = husband’s brother (*latin*)

- Deuteronomy 25: 7-10

Then shall his brother's wife come unto him in the presence of the elders, and loose his shoe from off his foot, and spit in his face, and shall answer and say, So shall it be done unto that man that will not build up his brother's house. And his name shall be called in Israel, The house of him that hath his shoe loosed.



# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 4:7-8

Now this was the manner in former time in Israel concerning redeeming and concerning changing, for to confirm all things; a man plucked off his shoe, and gave it to his neighbour: and this was a testimony in Israel. Therefore the kinsman said unto Boaz, Buy it for thee. So he drew off his shoe.

# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Exodus 6:6

Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments.



# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Isaiah 43:1

But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine.

# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 4:9-10

And Boaz said unto the elders, and unto all the people, Ye are witnesses this day, that I have bought all that was Elimelech’s, and all that was Chilion’s and Mahlon’s, of the hand of Naomi. Moreover Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of Mahlon, have I purchased to be my wife, to raise up the name of the dead upon his inheritance, that the name of the dead be not cut off from among his brethren, and from the gate of his place: ye are witnesses this day.



# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Divine loyal love far exceeds human love.

- Trust God’s loyal love when people around us fail (1-10)
- Trust God’s loyal love even when we fail (11-17)

# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Divine loyal love far exceeds human love.

- Trust God’s loyal love even when we fail (11-17)
  - Elimelech made a wrong choice to go to Moab
  - Mahlon made a wrong choice to marry a Moabite
  - Naomi complained that God had left her “empty”



# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 4:11-12

And all the people that were in the gate, and the elders, said, We are witnesses. The Lord make the woman that is come into thine house like Rachel and like Leah, which two did build the house of Israel: and do thou worthily in Ephratah, and be famous in Beth-lehem: and let thy house be like the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bare unto Judah, of the seed which the Lord shall give thee of this young woman.

# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 1:20-21

And she said unto them, Call me not Naomi, call me Mara: for the Almighty hath dealt very bitterly with me.

I went out full and the Lord hath brought me home again empty: why then call ye me Naomi, seeing the Lord hath testified against me, and the Almighty hath afflicted me?



# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Ruth 4:14-16

And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the Lord, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel. And he shall be unto thee a restorer of thy life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter in law, which loveth thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath born him. And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it.

# RUTH – GOD’S COVENANTAL LOVE

Divine loyal love far exceeds human love.

- Trust God’s loyal love when people around us fail (1-10)
- Trust God’s loyal love even when we fail (11-17)
- Trust God’s loyal love which overflows in redemption (18-22)



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