



## Redemption and Blessing

### II. REDEMPTION ACCOMPLISHED - Ruth 4:9-17 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup>And Boaz said to the elders and all the people, “You *are* witnesses this day that I have bought all that was Elimelech’s, and all that *was* Chilion’s and Mahlon’s, from the hand of Naomi. <sup>10</sup>Moreover, Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, I have acquired as my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brethren and from <sup>4</sup>his position at the gate. You *are* witnesses this day.” <sup>11</sup>And all the people who *were* at the gate, and the elders, said, “We *are* witnesses. The Lord make the woman who is coming to your house like Rachel and Leah, the two who built the house of Israel; and may you prosper in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem. <sup>12</sup>May your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring which the Lord will give you from this young woman.” <sup>13</sup>So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife; and when he went in to her, the Lord gave her conception, and she bore a son. <sup>14</sup>Then the women said to Naomi, “Blessed *be* the Lord, who has not left you this day without a close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel! <sup>15</sup>And may he be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has borne him.” <sup>16</sup>Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her bosom, and became a nurse to him. <sup>17</sup>Also the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, “There is a son born to Naomi.” And they called his name Obed. He *is* the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Redemption for all has always been God’s plan – His will does not get any plainer and contrary to the opinion of most, it can be known (John 3:16; 2 Peter 3:9).

As if redemption is not enough, God continually blesses those whom He has redeemed. It was not enough that He provided a husband for Ruth, but He also blesses her with a child that in turn blesses Naomi.

Though it was priceless, our redemption is not so complicated – all we have to do is believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, confess that we believe on Him and continue believing on Him regardless of our circumstances.

What did Ruth have to do for her redemption?

What are you doing for your redemption?

### III. REDEMPTION BY CHRIST – Ephesians 1:2-7, 14 (GWT)

<sup>2</sup> Good will and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ are yours! <sup>3</sup>Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Through Christ, God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing that heaven has to offer. <sup>4</sup>Before the creation of the world, he chose us through Christ to be holy and perfect in his presence. <sup>5</sup>Because of his love he had already decided to adopt us through Jesus Christ. He freely chose to do this <sup>6</sup>so that the kindness<sup>f</sup> he had given us in his dear Son would be praised and given glory. <sup>7</sup>Through the blood of his Son, we are set free from our sins. God forgives our failures because of his overflowing kindness. <sup>8</sup>He poured out his kindness by giving us every kind of wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>when he revealed the mystery of his plan to us. He had decided to do this through Christ. <sup>10</sup>He planned to bring all of history to its goal in Christ. Then Christ would be the head of everything in heaven and on earth. <sup>11</sup>God also decided ahead of time to choose us through Christ according to his plan, which makes everything work the way he intends. <sup>12</sup>He planned all of this so that we who had already focused our hope on Christ would praise him and give him glory. <sup>13</sup>You heard and believed the message of truth, the Good News that he has saved you. In him you were sealed with the Holy Spirit whom he promised. <sup>14</sup>This Holy Spirit is the guarantee that we will receive our inheritance. We have this guarantee until we are set free to belong to him. God receives praise and glory for this.

The redemption of man is the greatest work of God one will ever witness. God and God alone through redemption is able to change the man. This change is not a surface change; it’s not even necessarily a behavioral change, as anyone can change their appearance and behavior. It is a change of the heart and it is the heart that will set us apart from everyone else. Consider the words of Jesus – Mark 7:21,22.

Since God looks on the heart and not the outward appearance one should ensure that they have allowed God to bring about His plan for their heart. What is the condition of your heart?

Christ’s work of righteousness is what has redeemed us, not our acts of righteousness. There is an old hymn that states “*my hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness...*”. Too often many are deceived into believing that their goodness – church attendance, tithing/giving, good behavior, etc...is what makes them righteous. The word of God makes it very clear; one’s righteousness comes from believing on the Lord. Let us not complicate it and in the process push people away from God.