



Ruth 3 “At His Feet”

Intro:

Ruth chapter 3 is a passage with multiple debated interpretations. Though we may briefly acknowledge some of those, our main goal is to observe Ruth’s obedience, diligence, preparation, and servant heart, and to learn from it. We will consider a practical way to apply what is happening in this story. As we observe Ruth’s preparation, obedience, and posture of humility before her redeemer, we are given a picture of how we are to live as we wait for our Redeemer.

God has already visited us. He has already brought us under His wings. Now as believers, the question becomes: how do we live as we wait for Him to complete the work? This chapter shows us that we are to live as servants at His feet—preparing ourselves, walking in obedience, and living for His glory as we wait for our Redeemer.

V.1–5

1. Prepare Yourself

Naomi gives Ruth three key instructions before she goes to Boaz: “Wash... anoint... put on your cloak...” This was intentional preparation. Ruth does not approach Boaz casually—she prepares herself with purpose. *The first instruction*, “wash,” reminds us of Ephesians 5:25–27, which speaks of being washed and cleansed through the Word of God as we grow in Christ. *The second instruction*, “anoint yourself,” points us to a life that is pleasing to God. Ephesians 5:2 and 2 Corinthians 2:14–15 speak of living in love and sacrifice as a fragrant aroma before Him. *The third instruction*, “put on your cloak,” reminds us of Ephesians 4:22–24 and Galatians 3:27, where we are called to put off the old self and put on Christ, living in a way that reflects Him rather than our sinful nature.

A helpful way to apply these instructions is:

1. **Wash Yourself With The Word**
2. **Let Be the aroma of Your Life**
3. **Put on Christ**

This is how we prepare ourselves for our Redeemer. *Read Revelation 19:7-8 and Mathew 24:44*

V.6–9

2. Come to His Feet

By lying at His feet and asking Boaz to put “spread his wings over her” Ruth is placing herself in a position of submission, humility, and dependence. This is how we as believer should live. It made me think of Mary at the feet of Jesus (Luke 10:39), humbly and submissively listening to Him. Many times as believers we live more like Martha, fixated on being busy and **more focused on DOING than BEING**. God will always tell us what He wants us to do, but before that we need to learn to be His servants and live at His feet humbly and submissively listen to our loving Father.

V.10–15

3. Live a Life Worthy of the Redeemer

Boaz tells Ruth, “All my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman.” The word “worthy” is the same word used in Proverbs 31 to describe a virtuous woman. Ruth is the only woman in Scripture explicitly given this title. This was not hidden or private—her life was a visible testimony.

“All my fellow townsmen know...” means her character was evident to everyone. She lived in such a way that others could clearly see that her life brought glory to God. This is what we are called to as well—not to earn redemption, but because we belong to the Redeemer. We are called to reflect Him and live in a way that is worthy of the calling we have received.

- “Just one thing: *As citizens of heaven, **live your life worthy of the gospel of Christ.** Then, whether I come and see you or am absent, I will hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, in one accord, contending together for the faith of the gospel,*”Philippians 1:27 CSB

V.16–18

4. Wait and Don't Go Home Empty Handed

Ruth does not return home empty-handed. Boaz sends her back with provision, and Naomi encourages Ruth to wait assuring her that Boaz will settle the matter. This points us forward. In the same way we wait for our Redeemer to come back for us knowing that though it was finished on the cross we still must wait for His return. But until that day, we are called to live faithfully with what He has given us. But until that day, we are called to live faithfully with what He has given us. God has entrusted us with provision—time, gifts, resources, and opportunities. The question is: what are we doing with them? Are we investing them for His glory? Are we using what He has given us to grow His kingdom? Or are we like the unfaithful servant, burying what we have been given and living only for this world (Mathew 25:14-30).

Conclusion and Main Idea:

“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be discovered. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, **what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,** looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! *But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells.* **Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found spotless and blameless by Him, at peace,**” 2 Peter 3:10-14

Memory Verse:

“At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! He said, “Who are you?” And she answered, “I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer.”” Ruth 3:8-9 ESV

