

A Man of No-Account

1. Boaz Arranges All the Details for Redemption (1-4).

2. The “Closer Relative” Reacts Shamefully (3-6).

3. God Preserves the Names of Those Asleep in Him (5-6).

Conclusion: In securing Ruth’s position within God’s people and her dead husband’s inheritance, Boaz takes care of all of the arrangements according to God’s Word. This is contrasted with the shameful way in which the closer relative acts, concerned only with his own standing. As a result of his selfishness he is cut off and forgotten. Boaz and this anonymous relation are an example of the two lines of men—those who praise the name of God and those who seek to make a name for themselves. Jesus has the name which is above every other name and He has made us co-heirs with Him, all who find our security in Him alone by faith.

Matthew 22:29-33

But Jesus answered them, *“You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not God of the dead, but of the living.”* And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

Genesis 2:15-17; 4:25-26; 11:4

²¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, *for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die*” ... ⁴²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, “God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him.” ²⁶ To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. *At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD* ... ¹¹⁴ Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and *let us make a name for ourselves*, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.”

Jeremiah 32:6-15

⁶ Jeremiah said, “The word of the LORD came to me: ⁷ Behold, Hanamel the son of Shallum your uncle will come to you and say, ‘*Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.*’ ⁸ Then Hanamel my cousin came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the LORD, and said to me, ‘Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, *for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.*’ Then I knew that this was the word of the LORD.

⁹ “And I bought the field at Anathoth from Hanamel my cousin, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. ¹⁰ I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. ¹¹ Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions and the open copy. ¹² And I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch the son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of Hanamel my cousin, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. ¹³ I charged Baruch in their presence, saying, ¹⁴ ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware vessel, that they may last for a long time. ¹⁵ *For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.*’