

Series: Ruth: A Story of God's Steadfast Love

Message: The Cost of Steadfast Love

Scripture: Ruth 4:1-15a (ESV)

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Kinsman Redeemer

1. Redeems property
2. Redeems from indentured servitude or slavery
3. Provides an heir

The Danger We Face: A Crossless Christianity.

Why?

1. Deceived (fake "gospel")
2. Embarrassed (true gospel)
3. Confused (cheap grace)

The Big Lie: Because our redemption is free for us and costs us nothing, we believe that it also cost Jesus nothing.

The Liberating Truth We Believe: At a great sacrifice, Christ, our Kinsman Redeemer, has sought us, wed us, provides for us and makes us beautiful.

I Peter 1:18-19

¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,

¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

I Cor. 1:18, 22-24

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom,

²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles,

²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Ephesians 5:25-27

25 ...Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her,

26 that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

27 so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

Our Response (What this Gospel Produces in the Redeemed)

1. Humility and gratitude
2. Security through love
3. Daily repentance_and faith
4. Transformation to be channels of His Steadfast Love

Is my heart moved by the cost of redemption?

My Father,

Enlarge my heart, warm my affections, open my lips,

Supply words that proclaim "Love Lustres at Calvary."

There grace removes my burdens and heaps them on thy Son,

Made a transgressor, a curse, and sin for me;

There the sword of thy justice smote the man, thy fellow;

There thy infinite attributes were magnified,

And infinite atonement was made.

Christ was all anguish that I might be all joy,

Cast off that I might be brought in,

Trodden down as an enemy that I might be welcomed as a friend,

Surrendered to hell's worst that I might attain heaven's best,

Stripped that I might be clothed,

Wounded that I might be healed,

Athirst that I might drink,

Tormented that I might be comforted,

Made a shame that I might inherit glory.

O Father, who spared not thine only Son that thou mightiest spare me,

All this transfer thy love designed and accomplished;

Help me to adore thee by lips and life.

O that my every breath might be ecstatic praise,

My every step buoyant with delight, as I see

My enemies crushed,

Satan baffled, defeated, destroyed,

Sin buried in the ocean of reconciling blood,

Hell's gates closed, heaven's portal open.

Go forth, O conquering God, and show me the cross!

"Love Lustres at Calvary" from Valley of Vision

Ruth 4:1-15a (ESV)

1 Now Boaz had gone up to the gate and sat down there. And behold, the redeemer, of whom Boaz had spoken, came by. So Boaz said, "Turn aside, friend; sit down here." And he turned aside and sat down.

2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.

3 Then he said to the redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, is selling the parcel of land that belonged to our relative Elimelech.

4 So I thought I would tell you of it and say, 'Buy it in the presence of those sitting here and in the presence of the elders of my people.' If you will redeem it, redeem it. But if you will not, tell me, that I may know, for there is no one besides you to redeem it, and I come after you." And he said, "I will redeem it."

5 Then Boaz said, "The day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the widow of the dead, in order to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance."

6 Then the redeemer said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I impair my own inheritance. Take my right of redemption yourself, for I cannot redeem it.

7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging: to confirm a transaction, the one drew off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was the manner of attesting in Israel.

8 So when the redeemer said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself," he drew off his sandal.

9 Then Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought from the hand of Naomi all that belonged to Elimelech and all that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon.

10 Also Ruth the Moabite, the widow of Mahlon, I have bought to be my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead in his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brothers and from the gate of his native place. You are witnesses this day."

11 Then all the people who were at the gate and the elders said, "We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman, who is coming into your house, like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you act worthily in Ephrathah and be renowned in Bethlehem,

12 and may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring that the LORD will give you by this young woman."

13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son.

14 Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a redeemer, and may his name be renowned in Israel!

15 He shall be to you a restorer of life."

