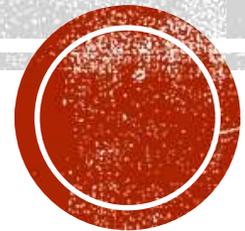


A WEDDING IN

Three Scenes: Scene #2: The Wedding Proposal



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A UNIQUELY EVIL AGE

Galatians 1:4 - “Present evil age”

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 - “god of this age”

Ephesians 2:2 - “spirit now working”

Ephesians 6:12 - “forces of darkness”

1 Cor. 2:6-7 - “wisdom of this age”

Titus 2:12 - **Romans 12:2**



HEBREWS 13:4

“Marriage is to be held in honor among all, and the marriage bed is to be undefiled; for fornicators and adulterers God will judge.”



EPHESIANS 5:3

“There must not be even a hint of sexual immorality among you, or any kind of impurity or *greed*, which are improper for God’s people.”



1 CORINTHIANS 7:26

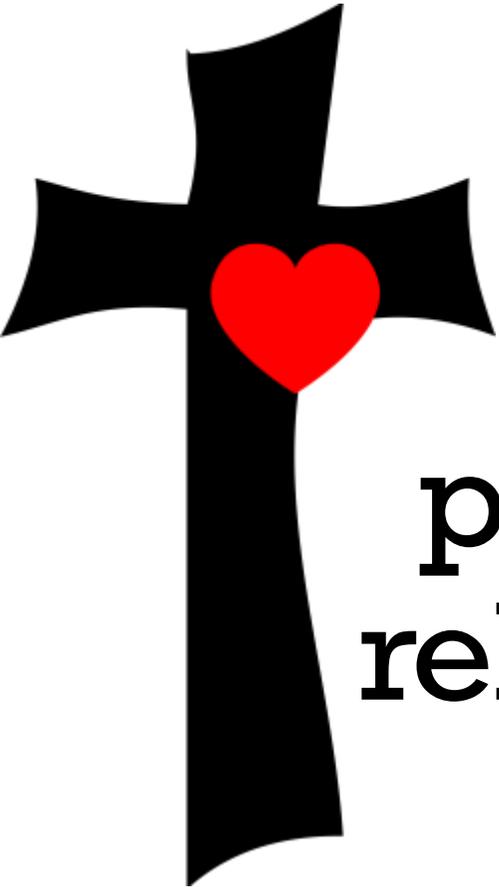
“Because of the present *distress*, I think it’s good for a man to remain as he is (regarding his marital status).”



CHRISTOLOGY

Christ our Redeemer
(and our Brother)

pictured in Boaz, the close
relative, kinsman redeemer.



KINSMAN REDEEMER

Boaz *pledged* himself to
care for Ruth.

His first response is to bring the
LORD into the situation.

Is that your first response?



PLEDGE



BOAZ GAVE RUTH:



A *promise* in 3:10-11a;

A *compliment* in 3:11b;

A *shock* in 3:12;

An *assurance* in 3:13;



BOAZ GAVE RUTH:

A reminder of the importance
of purity; and

a generous surprise gift

in 3:14-15.



SCENE #3 - WAITING

...for the Wedding Day



Ruth 3:16-18



WAIT

Waiting on God, sometimes working in other people on your behalf, is hard, but it is always *productive*.

Isaiah 26:8

COMPLETE DEPENDENCE ON GOD
WHILE WAITING



ISAIAH 30:18, 15-16

Judah wouldn't wait on God to deliver, so God had to wait to be gracious.

Isaiah 25:9, 8; 30:19-26

When we don't wait, we miss out!



ISAIAH 64:4

“They have not heard or perceived by ear, or by eye a God like You, who acts in behalf of the one who waits for Him.”



1 CORINTHIANS 2:9

Not referring to physical wonders.

Refers to direct revelation to Apostles.

Revelation (10-11), Inspiration (12-13) for Scripture writers.

Illumination (14-16) for all believers!

Spirit always the Agent – 1 Peter 1:21.



GOD GIVES WISDOM

Illumination does NOT mean we know everything, that we don't need teachers, or that understanding does not require hard work.

Deuteronomy 29:29; Ephesians 4:11-12; 2 Timothy 2:15



ILLUMINATION

*“Open my eyes that I may behold
wonderful things in Your Law.” Ps. 119:18*

-Capacity to discern Divine Truth which
the spiritually dead cannot. *Ps. 119:105*



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ILLUMINATION

1 John 2:18-27

Context: Anointing is work of Spirit so believer discerns Truth and is protected from error.



FULL CIRCLE

We can wait productively for God to work His plan in our lives, sometimes by the lives of others, and trust Him because He has given us His Word and His Spirit to give us wisdom while waiting.

(Ruth believed and acted on what she knew.)



MAKE IT PERSONAL

- 1. Priorities – because of God’s grace in her life, Ruth took a very simple approach to life. She put the LORD first, others next, and herself last. And God blessed her richly!**

Are YOUR priorities in order?



MAKE IT PERSONAL

2. Marriage – Is about *servicing*. Does that word describe what is happening in YOUR home? Each day are you seeking to give, or to get? Boaz was a selfless provider. Ruth was an influential servant.



MAKE IT PERSONAL

3. Focus – “he will not rest” (3:18) Boaz would not rest until his work was done. Jesus our Redeemer would not rest until His work was done – ***John 5:17; 17:4; 19:30,***

“It is finished!”

Are YOU faithful in God’s work?



MAKE IT PERSONAL

4. Rest – we need Jesus our **Redeemer**, just as Ruth and Naomi needed Boaz. ***Hebrews 4:8-10***, “*there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God,*” refers to Jesus’ superior heavenly rest, which brings present inner peace.



TAKE IT HOME

- Immerse in the Word while waiting.
- Do right while waiting.
- See God accomplishing His will in your life through other people; they are God's tool, not obstacles.
- See yourself as full, not empty. (17)



AMERICA'S GOT TALENTS

Matthew 25:14-30

Talents = Responsibilities, Faithfulness

NOT natural abilities.

“five...two...one”

All who are faithful will be fruitful to some degree.

