

# The Text of the Book of Ruth

## from Hebrew<sup>a</sup>

**1** And it happened in the days of the judging of the judges, there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem of Judah went to dwell as an alien in the countryside of Moab—he and his wife and his two sons.

<sup>2</sup>And the name of the man was Elimelech<sup>b</sup>, and the name of his wife was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion<sup>c</sup>. They were Ephraimites from Bethlehem in Judah. And they went to the countryside of Moab and remained there.

<sup>13</sup>But Elimelech the husband of Naomi died and she was left behind with her two sons.

<sup>4</sup>And they took for themselves Moabite wives. The name of the one was Orpah<sup>d</sup> and the name of the other was Ruth<sup>e</sup>. And they lived there about ten years.

<sup>5</sup>But both Mahlon and Kilion died, and the woman was left without her two sons and without her husband.

<sup>16</sup>And she got up, she and her daughters-in-law, and returned from the countryside of Moab, because she had heard in the countryside of Moab that Yahweh had considered his people to give food to them.

<sup>7</sup>So she set out from the place where she was and her two daughters-in-law with her, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah.

## from Greek<sup>a</sup>

**1** And it happened when the judges were judging, there was a famine in the land; and a man from Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the land of Moab, he and his wife and his sons.

<sup>2</sup>The name of the man was Abimelech<sup>b</sup> [and the name of his wife Naomi]<sup>c</sup> and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion, Ephraimites from Bethlehem of Judah. They went to the land of Moab and resided there.

<sup>3</sup>When Abimelech the husband of Naomi died, she was left behind as were her two sons.

<sup>4</sup>They took women from the Moabites for themselves. The name of one was Orpah and the name of the other was Ruth, and they lived there nearly ten years.

<sup>5</sup>Then both Mahlon and Chilion died also. So the woman was left separated from her husband and from her two sons.

<sup>16</sup>So she arose with her two daughters-in-law, and they returned from the land of Moab because they heard, while in the land of Moab, that the Lord had visited his people to give them food.

<sup>7</sup>She went from the place in which she was, and her two daughters-in-law with her, and they began traveling along the road to return to the land of Judah.

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<sup>a</sup>Lexham English Bible, I've streamlined the footnotes and incorporated some of them into the main text.

<sup>b</sup>Ruth 1.2 Translated "My God is King"

<sup>c</sup>Ruth 1.2 Translated "Weakness" and "Fragility".

<sup>d</sup>Ruth 1.4 Translated "To turn one's back"

<sup>e</sup>Ruth 1.4 Translated "Friendship"

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<sup>a</sup>Lexham English Septuagint, footnotes are borrowed from the New English Translation of the Septuagint.

<sup>b</sup>Ruth 1.2 Translated "My Father is King"

<sup>c</sup>Ruth 1.2 Bracketed text in the NETS but not the LES.

*from Hebrew*

<sup>18</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go, each of you return to her mother’s house. May Yahweh show kindness to you<sup>f</sup> just as you did with the dead and with me.

<sup>9</sup>May Yahweh grant that you find a resting place, each in the house of her husband.” And she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and cried.

<sup>10</sup>And they said to her, “No, we want to return with you to your people.”

<sup>11</sup>And Naomi said, “Return, my daughters. Why do you still want to go with me? Are there sons in my womb that may be husbands for you?

<sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters! Go, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should think there is hope for me, even if I should have a husband this night, and even if I should bear sons,

<sup>13</sup>would you therefore wait until they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying?<sup>g</sup> No, my daughters, for it is far more bitter to me than to you. For the hand of Yahweh has gone out against me.”

<sup>14</sup>And they lifted up their voices and cried again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

<sup>15</sup>And she said, “Look, your sister-in-law has returned to her people and to her gods. Return after your sister-in-law too.”

*from Greek*

<sup>8</sup>Then Naomi said to her daughters-in-law, “Go now, and turn back, each to your mother’s house. May the Lord show compassion to you even as you have shown it with the dead and with me.

<sup>9</sup>May the Lord also grant that you might find rest, each in your husband’s house.” Then she embraced them, and they lifted their voice and wept.

<sup>10</sup>But they said to her, “We are returning with you to your people.”

<sup>11</sup>But Naomi said, “Turn around now, my daughters, for what reason do you come with me? Do I still have sons in my belly who would become your husbands?

<sup>12</sup>Turn around then, my daughters; for I have grown too old to belong to a man; because I said that I have a plan to belong to a man and I will bear sons,

<sup>13</sup>would you wait for them until they have grown up? Or would you hold back for them and not take another husband? Surely not, my daughters, for it has been a point of grief to me, on your behalf, that the hand of the Lord has gone forth against me.”

<sup>14</sup>Then they lifted their voice and wept even more. After that Orpah kissed her mother-in-law and returned to her people, but Ruth followed her.

<sup>15</sup>So Naomi said to Ruth, “Look, your sister-in-law has returned to her people and to her gods. You should also return now behind your sister-in-law.”

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<sup>f</sup>Ruth 1.8 Literally “do loyal love with you”

<sup>g</sup>Ruth 1.13 Literally “Would you therefore let yourself be hindered to not belong to a man?”

*from Hebrew*

<sup>¶16</sup>But Ruth said, “Do not urge<sup>h</sup> me to leave you or to return from following you! For where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people will be my people and your God will be my God.

<sup>17</sup>Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. So may Yahweh do to me, and even more, unless death separates you and me!”

<sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

<sup>¶19</sup>So the two of them went until they came to Bethlehem. And when they came<sup>i</sup> to Bethlehem, all of the town was stirred because of them. And they said, “Is this Naomi?”

<sup>20</sup>And she said to them, “You should not call me Naomi<sup>j</sup>; call me Mara<sup>k</sup>, for Shaddai<sup>l</sup> has caused me to be very bitter.<sup>m</sup>

<sup>21</sup>I went away full, but Yahweh brought me back empty-handed! Why call me Naomi when Yahweh has testified against me<sup>n</sup> and Shaddai has brought calamity upon me?”

<sup>22</sup>So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, returning from the countryside of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of the harvest of barley.

*from Greek*

<sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, “Do not plead with me to leave you or to turn back from following you.<sup>d</sup> For wherever you go, I will go; and wherever you dwell, I will dwell; your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.

<sup>17</sup>And wherever you die, I will die, and at that place I will be buried. May the Lord do this to me and more as well than this, should death cause a separation between me and you.”

<sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that she was resolved to go with her, she ceased talking to her any longer.

<sup>¶19</sup>Thus they walked together until they were in Bethlehem. The entire city was in an uproar about her, and they said, “Is this woman Naomi?”

<sup>20</sup>And she said to the women, “Do not call me Naomi any longer. Call me Bitter, for the sufficient one has put bitterness in me.

<sup>21</sup>I went away full, and the Lord returned me empty. So why do you call me Naomi since the Lord humbled me, and the one who is sufficient embittered me?

<sup>22</sup>Therefore Naomi returned as well as Ruth the Moabite, her daughter-in-law. They returned from the land of Moab. And they had approached Bethlehem at the beginning of the harvest season for barley.

<sup>h</sup>Ruth 1.16 Literally “You shall not press me”

<sup>i</sup>Ruth 1.19 Literally “And it happened at the moment of coming”

<sup>j</sup>Ruth 1.20 Translated “Pleasantness”

<sup>k</sup>Ruth 1.20 Translated “Bitterness”

<sup>l</sup>Ruth 1.20 Often translated “the Almighty”

<sup>m</sup>Ruth 1.20 Literally “caused very bitterness to me”

<sup>n</sup>Ruth 1.21 Literally “and Yahweh answered against me”

<sup>d</sup>Ruth 1.16 “Do not plead...following you” in other Greek manuscripts is “May it not befall me to abandon you or to turn back.”

*from Hebrew*

**2**Now Naomi had a relative of her husband,<sup>o</sup> a man mighty of wealth from the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz<sup>p</sup>.

<sup>2</sup>And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Please let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after someone in whose eyes I may find favor.” And she said to her, “Go, my daughter.”

<sup>3</sup>So she went and came and gleaned in the field behind the reapers. And she happened by chance upon the tract of field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech.

<sup>4</sup>And look, Boaz came from Bethlehem and said to the reapers, “May Yahweh be with you.” And they said to him, “May Yahweh bless you.”

<sup>5</sup>And Boaz said to his servant in charge of the reapers, “To whom does this young woman belong?”

<sup>6</sup>And the servant in charge of the reapers said, “She is a Moabite girl returning with Naomi from the countryside of Moab.

<sup>7</sup>And she said, ‘Please let me glean and let me gather among the sheaves behind the reapers.’ So she came and remained from the morning up to now. She is sitting for a little while in the house.”

<sup>18</sup>And Boaz said to Ruth, “Listen carefully,<sup>q</sup> my daughter, go no longer to glean in another field. Moreover, do not leave from this one, but stay close<sup>r</sup> with my young women.

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<sup>o</sup>Ruth 2.1 Hebrew main text “was an acquaintance of a man of her husband”, Hebrew margin reading represented above.

<sup>p</sup>Ruth 2.1 Translated “In him is strength”

<sup>q</sup>Ruth 2.8 Literally, “You have heard”

<sup>r</sup>Ruth 2.8 Literally “cling”

*from Greek*

**2**Naomi had a man known to her husband, and the man, who had great wealth, was from the lineage of Abimelech, and his name was Boaz.

<sup>2</sup>So Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me now walk to the field, and I will gather in the grain behind whatever man in whose eyes I will find goodwill.” And she said to her, “Go daughter.”

<sup>3</sup>And she went and gathered in the field behind the harvesters and encountered, by chance, the part of the field that belonged to Boaz, who was from the lineage of Abimelech.

<sup>14</sup>Behold, soon Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and said to the harvesters, “The Lord be with you.” And they said to him, “The Lord bless you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then Boaz said to his servant who had authority over the harvesters, “Whose young woman is this?”

<sup>6</sup>And the servant who had authority over the harvesters replied and he said, “The young lady is the Moabite woman who returned with Naomi from the land of Moab.”

<sup>7</sup>She said, “I hope to gather and collect in the midst of the sheaves behind the harvesters.” And so she arrived and remained from morning until evening and did not stop in the field even a little.

<sup>8</sup>So Boaz said to Ruth, “Do you not understand, daughter?<sup>e</sup> Do not go into another field to gather, nor depart from this one here, but stay close behind my young women.

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<sup>e</sup>Ruth 2.7 Or “Did you not hear, daughter?” or “Listen, daughter.”

*from Hebrew*

<sup>9</sup>Keep your eyes on the field that they reap and go after them. Have I not ordered the servants not to bother you? And if you get thirsty, you shall go to the containers and drink from where the servants have drawn.”

<sup>10</sup>And she fell on her face and bowed down to the ground and said to him, “Why have I found favor in your eyes by recognizing me—for I am a foreigner?”

<sup>11</sup>And Boaz answered and said to her, “All that you have done for your mother-in-law after the death of your husband was fully told to me. How you left your father and mother and the land of your birth, and you went to a people that you did not know yesterday or three days ago.<sup>s</sup>

<sup>12</sup>May Yahweh reward your work and may a full reward be given to you from Yahweh, the God of Israel, under whose wings you came to take refuge.”

<sup>13</sup>And she said, “May I find favor in your eyes, my lord, for you have comforted me and have spoken kindly to your servant,<sup>t</sup> and I am not one of your servants.”

<sup>¶14</sup>And Boaz said to her at mealtime,<sup>u</sup> “Come here and eat from the bread and dip your morsel in the wine vinegar.” So she sat beside the gleaners, and he offered to her roasted grain. And she ate and was satisfied, and she had some left over.

<sup>15</sup>And she got up to glean, and Boaz instructed his servants saying, “Let her also glean between the sheaves and do not reproach her.

*from Greek*

<sup>9</sup>Focus your eyes upon the field that they are harvesting and walk behind them. Behold, I have charged the young men not to lay hands on you. And when you become thirsty, go to the vessels and drink from the ones that the young men draw.”

<sup>10</sup>Then she fell upon her face and prostrated herself upon the earth and said to him, “Why is it that I found favor in your eyes that you notice me even though I am a foreigner?”

<sup>11</sup>So Boaz answered and said to her, “A report was given to me concerning everything that you have done in the company of your mother-in-law after your husband died, and how you left behind your father and your mother and the land of your birth and reached a people that you did not know yesterday and the third day.

<sup>12</sup>May the Lord compensate your work, may your reward be abundant from the Lord God of Israel, to whom you came, to be confident under his wings.

<sup>13</sup>And so she said, “May I find favor in your eyes, O Lord, because you encouraged me and because you spoke to the heart of your servant—and look, I am like one of your maidservants.”

<sup>14</sup>Boaz said to her, “It is already time to eat. Come here and eat bread and dip your portion in the sour wine.” So Ruth sat next to the harvesters, and Boaz piled crushed grain for her, and she ate until full even though some remained.

<sup>15</sup>After she rose to gather, Boaz commanded his young men saying, “Even let her collect from the middle of the sheaves and do not accost her.

<sup>s</sup>Ruth 2.11 Idiomatically “did not know before”

<sup>t</sup>Ruth 2.13 Literally “on the heart of your servant”

<sup>u</sup>Ruth 2.14 Literally “at the time of the food”

*from Hebrew*

<sup>16</sup>And also pull out for her from your bundles and leave it so that she may glean—and do not rebuke her.”

<sup>¶17</sup>So she gleaned in the field until the evening and she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley.

<sup>18</sup>And she picked it up and went to the town. Her mother-in-law saw how much she had gleaned. And she took it out and gave to her what she had left over after being satisfied.<sup>v</sup>

<sup>19</sup>And her mother-in-law said to her, “Where did you glean today and where did you work? May he who took notice of you be blessed.” And she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, “The name of the man who I worked with today is Boaz.”

<sup>20</sup>And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, “May he be blessed by Yahweh, whose loyal love has not forsaken the living or the dead.” And Naomi said to her, “The man is a close relative for us, he is one of our redeemers.”

<sup>21</sup>And Ruth the Moabite said, “Also, he said to me, ‘You shall stay close with the servants which are mine until they have finished all of the harvest which is mine.’”

<sup>22</sup>And Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, “It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his maidservants so that you will not be bothered in another field.”

<sup>23</sup>So she stayed close with the maidservants of Boaz to glean until the end of the barley harvest and wheat harvest. And she lived with her mother-in-law.

*from Greek*

<sup>16</sup>Also what needs to be lifted, lift up for her; and also what falls aside, let it fall for her. And she shall eat and gather from the pile, and you shall not rebuke her.”

<sup>17</sup>And she gathered in the field until evening and threshed what she had gathered, and it was something like a measure of barley.

<sup>¶18</sup>She picked it up and went into the city, and her mother-in-law saw what she had harvested. Ruth unloaded it and gave her what was left over from that which she was filled.

<sup>19</sup>Then her mother-in-law said to her, “Where did you harvest today? And where did you toil? Blessed be the one who recognized you.” So Ruth reported to her mother-in-law where she labored and said, “The name of the man in whose company I worked today was Boaz.”

<sup>20</sup>Then Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, “He is blessed by the Lord because he has not abandoned his compassion for the living and the dead.” And Naomi said to her, “The man is next of kin to us. He is one of our close relatives.”

<sup>21</sup>Ruth said to her mother-in-law, “He also said to me, ‘Stick with my young men until they have finished the whole crop which belongs to me.’”

<sup>22</sup>And Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, “It is good, daughter, that you go in the company of his young women so men will not encounter you in another field.”

<sup>23</sup>So Ruth closely followed Boaz’s young women to glean until the harvest of barley and wheat ended. And she dwelled with her mother-in-law.

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<sup>v</sup>Ruth 2.18 Literally “from her satiety”

*from Hebrew*

**3** Now Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, **3**“My daughter, should I not seek for you security that things may be good for you?”

**2** So then, is not Boaz our kinsman whose maid-servants you were with? Look, he is winnowing the barley at the threshing floor tonight.

**3** Wash, anoint yourself, put your clothing on, and go down to the threshing floor. Do not make yourself known to the man until he finishes eating and drinking.

**4** And when he lies, take notice of the place where he lies. And you shall go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he shall tell you what to do.”

**5** And she said to her, “I will do all that you say.”

**16** And she went down to the threshing floor and did all that her mother-in-law had instructed her.

**7** And Boaz ate and drank until his heart was merry<sup>w</sup> and then he came to lie at the end of the grain heap. And she came in quietly and uncovered his feet and lay down.

**8** And it happened in the middle of the night the man was startled and he reached out and behold, a woman was lying at his feet.

**9** And he said, “Who are you?” And she said, “I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your garment<sup>x</sup> over your servant because you are a redeemer.”

*from Greek*

**3** Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, **3**“Daughter, shall I not seek for you a place of rest that it may be well for you?”

**2** Now was it not Boaz our kinsman of whom you were in the company of his young women? Look, he is winnowing barley at the threshing floor tonight.

**3** So you should wash and anoint and put your clothing on you and go up on the threshing floor. Do not make yourself known to the man until he finishes eating and drinking.

**4** And it shall be that when he is sleeping, you will learn the place where he rests; and you shall go there and uncover the spot at his feet and sleep. Then he will tell you what you should do.”

**5** And Ruth said to her, “All that you say I will do.”

**16** So she went down to the threshing floor and did everything just as her mother-in-law directed her.

**7** After Boaz ate and his heart was of good cheer, he went to fall asleep in a section of the pile of grain. Then she went surreptitiously and uncovered his feet.

**8** When it was the middle of the night, the man was alarmed and stirred. And behold, a woman was asleep at his feet.

**9** So he said, “Who are you?” She said, “I am Ruth, your servant. Put the wing of your cloak upon your servant because you are next of kin.”

<sup>w</sup>Ruth 3.7 Literally “good”

<sup>x</sup>Ruth 3.9 Literally “your wing”

*from Hebrew*

<sup>10</sup>And he said, "You are blessed by Yahweh my daughter. You did better in this last kindness than the first by not going after young men, whether poor or rich.

<sup>11</sup>And so then my daughter, do not be afraid. All that you ask I will do for you, for the entire assembly of my people knows that you are a worthy woman.

<sup>12</sup>Now truly I am a redeemer, but there is also a redeemer of a closer relationship than me.

<sup>13</sup>Stay tonight, and in the morning, if he wants to redeem you, good; but if he is not willing to redeem, then as Yahweh lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning."

<sup>14</sup>So she lay at his feet until morning and got up before a man could recognize his friend. And he said, "It must not be known that a woman came to the threshing floor."

<sup>15</sup>And he said, "Bring the cloak that is on you and hold it out." And she held it out and he measured six measures of barley and put it on her cloak. Then she went into the city.

<sup>16</sup>And she came to her mother-in-law, and she said, "How did it go for you,<sup>y</sup> my daughter?" And she told her all that the man did for her.

<sup>17</sup>And she said, "These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said, 'You shall not go empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'"

<sup>18</sup>And she said, "Wait, my daughter, until you know how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today."

*from Greek*

<sup>10</sup>Then Boaz said, "May the Lord God bless you, daughter, because you have magnified your final compassion beyond the first, by not going after young men whether poor or rich.

<sup>11</sup>Now daughter, don't be afraid. Everything that you requested I will do for you because the whole tribe of my people knows that you are a woman of ability.

<sup>12</sup>While truly I am a next of kin, there also exists a next of kin closer than I.

<sup>13</sup>Stay the night, and if tomorrow he will be like the next of kin for you, good, let him be next of kin. But if he does not wish to be next of kin to you, I will be your next of kin, as the Lord lives. You are the Lord. Lie down until morning."

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, she slept near his feet until morning, but arose before a man was able to recognize his neighbor. Then Boaz said, "Let it not be learned that a woman came to the threshing floor."

<sup>15</sup>Then he said to her, "Stretch out the skirt that is on you." She held it, and he measured six measures of barley and balanced them upon her; then he went into the city.

<sup>16</sup>So Ruth returned to her mother-in-law. And she said to her, "Who are you, daughter?" And she reported to her each thing that the man did for her.

<sup>17</sup>And she said to her, "He gave me these six measures of barley because he said to me, 'Do not go empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'"

<sup>18</sup>And so she said, "Be patient, daughter, until it is clear to you how the thing turns out, for the man will not rest until he finishes the matter today."

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<sup>y</sup>Ruth 3.16 Literally "who are you?"



*from Hebrew*

**4** And Boaz had gone up to the city gate and sat there. And look, the redeemer of whom Boaz had spoken was passing by. And he said, “Come over here to sit, What’s-Your-Name.”<sup>z</sup> And he came over and sat.

<sup>2</sup>And he took ten men from the elders of the city and said, “Sit here.” And they sat.

<sup>3</sup>And he said to the redeemer, “Naomi, who returned from the countryside of Moab, is selling the tract of land which was for our brother Elimlech.

<sup>4</sup>And I thought I would tell you<sup>aa</sup> and say, ‘Buy it in the presence of<sup>ab</sup> those sitting and before the elders of my people,’ if you want to redeem it, redeem it. But if you do not want to redeem, tell me so that I may know, for there is no one except you to redeem it, and I am after you.” And he said, “I want to redeem it.”

<sup>5</sup>And Boaz said, “On the day of your acquiring the field from the hand of Naomi, you also acquire Ruth the Moabite, the wife of the dead man, in order to raise up for the name of the dead his inheritance.”

<sup>6</sup>And the redeemer said, “I am not able to redeem for myself, lest I ruin my inheritance. You redeem for yourself my kinsman-redemption, for I am not able to redeem it.”

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<sup>z</sup>Ruth 4.1 Hebrew “ploni ’almoni”, a placeholder equivalent to “What’s-your-name” or “so-and-so”.

<sup>aa</sup>Ruth 4.4 Literally “I would open your ear”

<sup>ab</sup>Ruth 4.4 Literally “Buy before”

*from Greek*

**4** So Boaz went to the gate and sat there; and behold, the next-of-kin whom Boaz mentioned passed by. And Boaz called to him, “Turn aside; sit here, O Hidden One<sup>f</sup>.” And he turned around and sat down.

<sup>2</sup>Then Boaz selected ten men from the elders of the city and said, “Sit here.” And they sat down.

<sup>3</sup>And Boaz said to the next of kin, “The parcel of land that belonged to our brother Abimelech, which has been given to Naomi, the woman who returned from the land of Moab—

<sup>4</sup>and I said, ‘I will uncover your ear, saying, “Make the purchase in front of those sitting here and before the elders of my people,” if you are the next of kin, act as next of kin. But if you are not acting as next of kin, report it to me, and I will know because no one remains except you to act as next of kin, and I am the one after you.’” And the man said, “I am the one to act as next of kin, and I am after you.” And he said, “I am, I will act as next of kin.”

<sup>5</sup>And Boaz said, “On the day when you obtain the land from the hand of Naomi and from Ruth, the Moabite wife of the deceased, you also acquire her since it is necessary to establish the name of the deceased upon his inheritance.”

<sup>6</sup>Then the next of kin said, “I am not able to act as next of kin for myself, in case I destroy my inheritance. Exercise my next of kin duties for yourself because I am not able to act as next of kin.”

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<sup>f</sup>Ruth 4.1 Literally “Hidden One”, in the sense of “Name Redacted”. That is, his name is erased because he refused to preserve the name of Mahlon.

*from Hebrew*

<sup>¶17</sup>(Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning the kinsman-redemption and transfer of property: to confirm the matter, a man removed his sandal and gave it to his fellow countryman. This was the manner of attesting in Israel.)

<sup>8</sup>So the redeemer said to Boaz, “Acquire it for yourself,” and he removed his sandal.

<sup>9</sup>And Boaz said to the elders and all of the people, “You are witnesses today that I have acquired all that was for Elimelech and that was for Kilion and Mahlon from the hand of Naomi.

<sup>10</sup>And also Ruth the Moabite, the wife of Mahlon, I have acquired as a wife, to raise up the name of the dead over his inheritance, so that the name of the dead may not be cut off from his relatives and from the gate of his birth place. You are witnesses today.”

<sup>11</sup>And all of the people who were at the gate and the elders said, “We are witnesses. May Yahweh make the woman coming into your house as Rachel and as Leah, who together built the house of Israel. May you have strength in Ephrathah and bestow a name in Bethlehem.

<sup>12</sup>And may your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah from the offspring that Yahweh will give to you from this young woman.”

<sup>¶13</sup>So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. And he went in to her, and Yahweh granted her conception, and she bore a son.

*from Greek*

<sup>7</sup>This was the practice earlier in Israel concerning the right of kin and concerning purchase to confirm every word. A man untied his shoe and offered it to his neighbor who was the one obtaining his duties of next of kin. This was the means of proof in Israel.

<sup>8</sup>So the next of kin said to Boaz, “Obtain my next of kin duties for yourself.” And he untied his shoe and offered it to him.

<sup>¶9</sup>Then Boaz said to the elders and to all the people, “You are witnesses today that I have acquired everything that was Abimelech’s and all the items that belonged to Chilion and to Mahlon from the hand of Naomi.

<sup>10</sup>I have also taken for myself Ruth the Moabite, the wife of Mahlon, as a wife to establish the name of the deceased upon his estate. Therefore, the name of the deceased will not be obliterated from his brothers nor from the tribe of his people. You are witnesses today.”

<sup>11</sup>And all the people who were at the gate said, “We are witnesses.” And the elders said, “May the Lord grant your wife, who is moving into your house, to be like Rachel and Leah who together built up the house of Israel and produced strength in Ephrathah; and there will be a name in Bethlehem.

<sup>12</sup>May your house be like the lineage of Perez, whom Tamar brought into the world for Judah, as a result of the seed that the Lord will give you from this young woman.”

<sup>¶13</sup>Then Boaz took Ruth [and she became his wife. And he went into her and]<sup>g</sup> the Lord granted her conception, and she delivered a son.

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<sup>g</sup>Ruth 4.13 Bracketed text in the NETS but not the LES.

*from Hebrew*

<sup>14</sup>And the women said to Naomi, “Blessed be Yahweh who today did not leave you without a redeemer!<sup>ac</sup> And may his name be renowned in Israel!

<sup>15</sup>He shall be for you a restorer of life and a sustainer in your old age, for your daughter-in-law who loves you, who is better for you than seven sons, has borne him.”

<sup>16</sup>And Naomi took the child and she put him on her bosom and became his nurse.

<sup>17</sup>And the women of the neighborhood gave him a name, saying, “A son has been born to Naomi.” And they called his name Obed<sup>ad</sup>. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

<sup>¶18</sup>Now these are the descendants of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron,

<sup>19</sup>and Hezron fathered Ram, and Ram fathered Amminadab,

<sup>20</sup>and Amminadab fathered Nahshon, and Nahshon fathered Salmon,

<sup>21</sup>and Salmon fathered Boaz, and Boaz fathered Obed,

<sup>22</sup>and Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

*from Greek*

<sup>14</sup>And the women said to Naomi, “Blessed is the Lord who did not wipe out your next of kin today. May your name be called in Israel!

<sup>15</sup>He will be for you as one who restores life and the one to support your old age. For the daughter-in-law, who loves you, and who is more commendable to you than seven sons, delivered him.”

<sup>16</sup>Then Naomi took the young child and placed it upon her bosom and became a nursemaid for him.

<sup>17</sup>And the neighborhood women assigned his name saying, “A son has been born for Naomi.” And they called his name Obed. This one was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

<sup>¶18</sup>And these are the offspring of Perez: Perez fathered Hezron,

<sup>19</sup>Hezron fathered Ram, and Ram fathered Amminadab,

<sup>20</sup>and Amminadab fathered Nahshon, and Nahshon fathered Salmon,

<sup>21</sup>and Salmon fathered Boaz, and Boaz fathered Obed,

<sup>22</sup>and Obed fathered Jesse, and Jesse fathered David.

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<sup>ac</sup>Ruth 4.14 Literally “did not allow to be missing for you a redeemer”

<sup>ad</sup>Ruth 4.17 Translated ‘Servant’