

# RUTH 3 vs 1

The story of Ruth, the Moabite, comes from the time of the Judges in the 12<sup>th</sup> century bc; though it was written much later. The reader is reminded repeatedly, (8 times) that Ruth is a Moabite woman: she is a foreigner, and who is Moab? The birth of Moab was the result of the incest of drunken Lot and his older daughter who gave birth to Moab – Genesis 19.

Security in the next-of-kin,

**<sup>1</sup> Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, My daughter, I will not rest until I see all is well with you.**

**<sup>2</sup> Now Boaz is our kinsman, with whose maidservants you have been working. Tonight, he winnows barley on the threshing floor.**

**<sup>3</sup> So wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best, and go down to the threshing floor: but do not make yourself known to the man, until he has finished eating and drinking.**

**<sup>4</sup> And it will be, when he lies down, that you note the place where he lays, and you will slip in, and uncover his feet, and you lay down; and he will tell you what to do next.**

**<sup>5</sup> And she said to her / in her rather irritating accent, All that you say to me, I will do.**

**<sup>6</sup> And she went down to the threshing floor, and did according to all that her mother-in-law told her.**

**<sup>7</sup> And when Boaz had eaten and drank, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the grain heap: then she came quietly, and uncovered his feet, and laid down.**

**<sup>8</sup> And it happened at midnight, that the man was startled, and bent himself forward: and, behold, there was a woman lying at his feet.**

**<sup>9</sup> And he said, Who are you? And she replied / in her irritating accent, I am Ruth your maid: so spread your covering over your maidservant; for you are the kinsman / the nearest of kin.**

**<sup>10</sup> Then he said, May you be blessed of the LORD, my daughter: for you have shown your last kindness to be better than the first, in that you did not run after young men, whether poor or rich.**

**<sup>11</sup> And now, my daughter, do not fear; I will do for you all that you require: for all my people in the city know you are a virtuous woman.**

**<sup>12</sup> It is true that I am your near kinsman: however there is a nearer kinsman than me.**



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The agreement of Boaz,

**13 So stay this night, and it will be in the morning, that if he does his duty to you for a kinsman, good and well; let him do a kinsman's duty: but if he does not want to redeem you, then, as surely as the LORD lives, I will redeem you: now rest until the morning.**

**14 And she lay at his feet until the morning: and she arose before one could recognize another. And he said, No one must know that a woman came to the threshing floor.**

**15 He also said, Bring the vail that you had over you and hold it. And when she held it, he measured out six measures of barley, and laid it on her. Then she went into the city.**

**16 And when she arrived to her mother-in-law, she asked, How did it go, my daughter? And she told her all that the man had done for her.**

**17 And she said, These six measures of barley he gave me; for he said to me, I must not go empty-handed to my mother-in-law.**

**18 Then she said, Sit still, my daughter, until you know how the matter turns out: for the man will not rest, until he has settled the matter this day.**

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