

1. First Summary of the Sermon

Ruth chapter 3 marks a turning point in the story with a sudden acceleration of events, moving quickly toward resolution. Naomi urges Ruth to seek *rest* -- meaning security and peace -- in the home of another husband, specifically Boaz. Naomi instructs Ruth on how to approach Boaz discreetly, signifying her availability for marriage and trusting in his role as a *kinsman redeemer*.

The sermon draws out three major theological themes from this chapter:

1. **The Need for a Pure Mind:** Ruth and Boaz, though in a potentially misunderstood situation, act with complete integrity. Their thoughts and actions are governed by trust in the Lord. The sermon urges believers to maintain pure minds by staying spiritually focused, drawing on Isaiah 26:3 and Romans 12:2 to describe the renewal of the mind.
2. **The Need for a Godly Union:** The purpose of marriage, as described, is not primarily happiness but *holiness*. A godly marriage sanctifies, transforms, and aligns with God's will to advance His kingdom. Even imperfect marriages reveal a greater need -- for obedience, patience, and trust in God.
3. **The Need for a Redeemer:** Ruth's request for Boaz to "spread his wings" over her is both a marriage proposal and a spiritual cry for redemption. The sermon connects Boaz's role to the ultimate Redeemer, Jesus Christ, who alone could pay the full price for our salvation. This chapter points to God's sovereign timing and grace-filled plan to redeem and restore lives.

In closing, Pastor Philip exhorts the congregation to seek the fulfillment of God's will in *His time*, to trust in His provision and to remain patient. The Redeemer's presence -- His peace, purpose, and promises -- will guide the believer through every season.

2. List of Scripture References with Descriptions

Reference	Description
Ruth 3:1-18	Main passage. Ruth follows Naomi's instructions and approaches Boaz at the threshing floor.
Ruth 1:8-9	Naomi prays for Orpah and Ruth to find "rest" in the home of another husband.
Ruth 2:11-12	Boaz blesses Ruth, saying she has taken refuge under the Lord's wings.
Ruth 3:9	Ruth asks Boaz to "spread your wings over your servant," invoking the language of redemption.

Reference	Description
Deuteronomy 25	The law of <i>levirate marriage</i> -- a relative marrying a widow to preserve the family line.
Isaiah 26:3	"You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are stayed on You."
Romans 12:2 (Amplified)	"Be transformed by the renewing of your mind..." -- a call to pursue godly values over worldly thinking.
Genesis (creation, Adam)	Reference to the first Adam, who sinned, necessitating a Redeemer.
Gospel references (Jesus' crucifixion)	Jesus as the second Adam, fully God and fully man, who alone could redeem humanity.
Isaiah 46:9-10	Closing blessing: "I am God, and there is no other... My purpose will stand, and I will do all I please."

3. Detailed List of Each Important Point as Stated

A Sudden Shift in Ruth's Story

- After long periods of waiting and uncertainty in Ruth 1 and 2, chapter 3 introduces a sudden and purposeful series of events that happen over just two days.
- Naomi sees it is time to act and seeks *rest* for Ruth -- symbolic of stability, peace, and God's provision.

Godly Guidance and Bold Obedience

- Naomi gives Ruth detailed and unusual instructions to approach Boaz.
- Ruth obeys, signaling her openness to marriage, and trust in both Naomi's spiritual insight, and Boaz's integrity.
- Ruth's actions are not manipulative or seductive; they reflect faith in God's order and timing.

The Need for a Pure Mind

- Ruth and Boaz act with moral clarity, not worldly passion.
- The passage warns against imposing modern, suggestive interpretations on ancient texts.
- Their minds were "stayed on the Lord" (Isaiah 26:3); they were led by godly intentions and behavior.
- Romans 12:2 affirms the importance of renewing the mind to discern God's will.

■ The Need for a Godly Union

- Marriage is not primarily to make one *happy*, but *holy*.
 - Godly unions serve to sanctify, transform, and reveal the need for God's grace.
 - Even imperfect marriages do not negate the institution. Instead, they invite us to seek God's wisdom and purpose within them.
 - Whether one is married, single, or waiting, God's design for union is rooted in kingdom impact and spiritual growth.
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■ The Need for a Redeemer

- Ruth's plea for Boaz to "spread your wings" is both a proposal and a call for redemption.
 - The phrase ties directly to Boaz's earlier blessing -- she is asking him to fulfill what he already declared over her.
 - This reflects the ancient *kinsman redeemer* role (Deuteronomy 25), preserving the family line and providing provision and protection.
 - Boaz, while noble, points forward to the **ultimate Redeemer** -- **Jesus Christ**.
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■ Christ: The Greater Redeemer

- Jesus paid the *full price* for sin -- not part, not in negotiation -- His blood shed to redeem humanity.
 - He is the only one *willing* and *able* to save.
 - No one else qualifies. We cannot redeem ourselves, or manage salvation on our own terms.
 - Jesus, as both fully God and fully man, fulfills the requirements of redemption.
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■ God's Timing is Perfect

- Just as Ruth experienced a sudden shift in her story after years of uncertainty, God's timing brings everything together.
 - Believers are called to trust, wait, and respond in obedience -- just as Ruth trusted Naomi, and Boaz waited in readiness.
 - The fulfillment of God's will comes *in His time*, often through unexpected people and methods.
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■ A Final Exhortation: Seek the Redeemer

- The sermon ends with a call: **seek the Lord while He may be found**.
 - Let your relationship with Jesus shape your decisions, priorities, and direction.
 - Don't present your plan to God -- present your *life* to Him, trusting His purpose and timing.
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A Closing Blessing

- Based on Isaiah 46:9–10: “There is none like You... Your purpose will stand.”
 - The people are encouraged to receive God's rest, security, and guidance.
 - Through Christ, we are not only saved but made whole, purified, and aligned with God's eternal purposes.
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4. Second Summary of the Sermon

This sermon focused on **Ruth 3:1-18**, discussing the story of Ruth and Boaz.

Naomi initiated the discussion by advising Ruth about seeking rest through marriage with Boaz. She provided specific instructions for Ruth to approach Boaz at the threshing floor.

Pastor Philip emphasized three important needs revealed in the chapter.

First, the need for a pure mind was discussed, highlighting how both Ruth and Boaz displayed noble characters in their interactions. The speaker noted that their actions were guided by their trust in the Lord rather than improper motives.

The second need discussed was for godly union. Pastor Philip explained that marriage's primary purpose is not happiness but holiness, designed to sanctify and perfect individuals. He emphasized that marriage should multiply the kingdom of God's effect rather than just fulfill personal desires.

The third and most crucial need identified was for a redeemer. The speaker drew parallels between Boaz as a kinsman-redeemer and Jesus Christ as humanity's ultimate redeemer. He explained that just as Boaz was willing to redeem Ruth when no other closer relative would, Jesus is the only one willing and able to fully redeem humanity from sin.

Introduction to Ruth Chapter 3 and Naomi's Counsel

Pastor Philip begins by reading Ruth 3:1-18, where Naomi advises Ruth to seek marriage with Boaz for security and rest. Naomi provides specific instructions for Ruth to approach Boaz at the threshing floor.

The Need for a Pure Mind

The speaker discusses the importance of maintaining pure thoughts and intentions, emphasizing how both Ruth and Boaz demonstrated noble character in their interactions, guided by their trust in the Lord.

The Need for Godly Union

Pastor Philip explains that marriage's primary purpose is sanctification rather than happiness, emphasizing how godly unions should advance God's kingdom, rather than fulfill personal desires.

The Ultimate Need for a Redeemer

The pastor draws parallels between Boaz as a kinsman-redeemer, and Jesus Christ as humanity's ultimate redeemer -- explaining how Jesus is the only one both willing and able, to fully redeem humanity from sin.

Action Items

1. seek your redeemer while He may be found
 2. position yourself to receive from God in His timing
 3. crucify your sinful nature, rather than trying to save or improve your self
 4. remember the former things, and acknowledge God's sovereignty
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Benedictory Closing:

This morning, I want to encourage you that even as you go through this week, that you're praying -- that you will experience the **presence of the Redeemer**, the presence of the Lord Almighty. That He will speak to you, that He will be with you, that He will be covering you under His wings. That you will feel that **security**, that **comfort**, that **rest**. That's what the Lord intends for us.

And every Sunday morning, I want to speak a word of blessing over you. But as we are always needing to be reminded of the Lord and of what He has done for us -- this week is a particularly good time to remember that when He went to the cross and died for our sakes and shed His blood, He didn't say, "You need to take up the cross so that you could do the same thing for yourself."

He said, "You need to take up the cross so that you could **crucify your sinful nature**." You can't save yourself, but you do need to **crucify yourself**. You need to put to death your passions and desires.

You need to say, "Lord God, not me, but You. Let me die -- but You live in me. You work through me."

And then every Sunday morning, I want to speak a word of blessing over you. So let's stand together as we receive the blessings of God's promises -- His power, His presence.

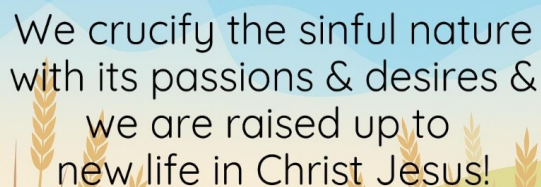
And we're saying, "Lord God, You do Your work in me. You do this work to bring me into this redemption. And then, Lord, You do all things in **Your time**."

So, based on **Isaiah 46:9-10**, I want to speak this word over you, even this week as you're remembering what the Lord has done:


"May you remember the former things, those of long ago. May you declare: 'Lord, You are God, and there is no other. Lord, You are God, and there is none like You. You make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come.'

Lord, may Your purpose for our lives stand, and may You do all that You please -- in Your time."

God bless you. Go in peace.



We crucify the sinful nature
with its passions & desires &
we are raised up to
new life in Christ Jesus!



We receive the blessings of
God's promises, power, and
presence