

CREATOR GOD'S SMALL PLAN: To Bless & Honor Ruth & Naomi

Ruth 4:13-17

13Boaz married Ruth – and God helped Ruth become pregnant. Ruth had a baby boy. 14The women of Bethlehem said to Naomi, “Praise God! God gave you a redeemer.” 17They named the baby Obed.

GOD'S VERY GREAT PLAN: To Bless All Peoples in the World

GOD USES BOAZ & RUTH FOR HIS VERY GREAT PLAN

Matthew 1:2-17

- 2 **ABRAHAM** was the father of Isaac, [Abraham = the father of all Israel – about 2000 B.C.]
 Isaac was the father of Jacob,
 Jacob was the father of **JUDAH**, [Judah = father of the tribe of Judah – about 1800 B.C.]
 (then six generations later)
- 5 Salmon was the father of Boaz – [Salmon – about 1400 B.C.]
 Boaz's mother was Rahab,
 Boaz was the father of Obed –
 Obed's mother was Ruth,
 Obed was the father of Jesse,
- 6 Jesse was the father of **KING DAVID**, [the greatest king of Israel – about 1000 B.C.]
 17 then there were twenty-eight generations from David to **JESUS** the Messiah. [about A.D. 1]

GOD USES ABRAHAM FOR HIS VERY GREAT PLAN

Genesis 12: 1-3 (about 2000 B.C.)

1God said to Abraham, 2“I will make you into a great country – [you will be the father of Israel]. And I will bless you. And I will make your name great. 3And all people in the world will be blessed through you.”

What do you think?

How will God bless all people in the world through Abraham?

GOD USES JUDAH FOR HIS VERY GREAT PLAN (Boaz and Naomi were in the tribe of Judah)

Genesis 49:10

10The tribe of Judah will always have the king's scepter – Judah will have the scepter until the true owner of the scepter will come. Then the true owner will take the scepter – and all countries in the world will obey the true owner of the scepter.

What do you think?

Who is the true owner of the scepter?

GOD USES KING DAVID FOR HIS VERY GREAT PLAN

(David was in the tribe of Judah)

1 Samuel 13:13-14 & 16:1, 13 Psalm 89:3-4 2 Samuel 7:16 (about 1000 B.C.)

1 Sam. 13:13 The prophet Samuel said to King Saul (the first king of Israel), "Saul, you were foolish. You did not obey God's command. 14 So your kingdom will end. You did not obey God. So God found a man who follows God's heart – this man loves God. And God chose this man to be the new king."

1 Sam. 16:1 God said to Samuel, "Go to Jesse – he lives in Bethlehem [in Judah]. I have chosen Jesse's son to be the new king. Take oil – and pour it on the head of Jesse's son." 13 So Samuel took the oil – and Samuel anointed David to be king. Then God's Spirit came on David – and God's Spirit gave David power.

Psalm 89:3 God said to King David, "I chose you. And I promise you: Your family line will be forever. Your throne will continue forever." 2 Sam. 7:16 "Your kingdom will continue forever."

What do you think?

Who will sit on David's throne forever?

GOD'S VERY GREAT PLAN IS – JESUS!

Jesus is Our King Forever.

Luke 1: 26-38

(about A.D. 1)

26 God sent the angel Gabriel 27 to talk to a virgin. The virgin's name was Mary. Mary was engaged to Joseph.

28 The angel said to her, 31 "You will become pregnant, and you will have a son. You must name him Jesus. 32 He will be very great. He will be called: Son of the Most High God.

"God will give Jesus the throne of his ancestor David. 33 Jesus will be king of Israel forever. Jesus' kingdom will never end."

34 "I am a virgin," Mary said. "How is this possible?" 35 The angel answered her, "God's Holy Spirit will come on you. God's power will be over you. So your son will be called the Son of God. 37 Nothing is impossible with God!"

Jesus is Our Redeemer. Matthew 1: 18-21 John 3:16-17

Matt. 1:18 Mary was engaged to Joseph. Joseph and Mary had not slept together [but Mary was pregnant]. 20 So one of God's angels came to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, "Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. The baby inside her is from God's Holy Spirit. 21 She will have a son.

"You must name the baby Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."
[Jesus = "the Lord saves"]

John 3:17 God sent his **only** Son Jesus to the world – God sent Jesus from **heaven** to save the world.
 16 God loved the world very **much** – so God gave his only Son Jesus to us. **If** you **believe** in Jesus you will not die **spiritually** – you will live forever.

But are All People Thankful to Creator God?

Romans 1:19-21

1:19 All people **can know** about Creator God. Knowing about God is very **clear** to **everyone** – because God made it clear to everyone. 20 We **cannot** see God, but we can know who God is: We know that he is powerful forever, and we know that he is **really** God. **Why** do we know this? Because we can see everything that God has made – from the **creation** of the world all people can **clearly** see what God has made. So people have no **excuse** – people cannot say: I don't know Creator God. 21 People did know God. But people did not praise God – people did not say: You are God. And people did not say: **Thank** you, God.

Jesus Takes Away Our Shame – and Jesus Gives Us Honor

Ephesians 2:1-3, 4-7

1 Peter 1:18-19

Ephesians 2:8-13, 19

2 Corinthians 5:17-20

Eph. 2:1-2 **Before** we believed in Jesus, we were spiritually **dead** – our sins made us dead. We followed **Satan** – Satan **works** in people who do not obey God. 3 **Bad desires** and **thoughts** came from inside us – and we followed **those** bad desires and bad thoughts. And **of course**, God's great **anger** was on us.

4 But God has great **mercy** – and God loves us very much. 5 So when we were spiritually dead, God made us **alive** with Jesus Christ. Jesus became **alive again**, so God made us alive again **too**. It is God's **wonderful gift** to us – we are saved **by** God's **grace**. 6 We became alive with Jesus, so **now** we are in Jesus – so we sit with Jesus in heaven. 7 Why did God do this for us? So that, in **eternity**, God can **show** us his **amazing** grace. God shows us his amazing grace by being very **kind** to us in Jesus.

1 Pet. 1:18 You were redeemed from your ancestor's **empty way of life**. You were not redeemed with **money** – because money does not **last**. 19 You were redeemed with the **precious blood** of Jesus Christ.

Eph. 2:8 You are saved by God's grace – so it is a gift from God. You receive God's gift by believing in Jesus. You cannot save **yourself**. 9 You cannot save yourself by **trying** to be a good person – you cannot work to be good. You cannot **boast**: I am a good person. 10 It is God who makes you good – God makes you good in Jesus Christ. God makes you good so that you can do good things – God **already decided** the good **works** he wants you to do.

12 Before you believed in Jesus, you were **far** from Jesus. You were not a **citizen** in God's kingdom – you were a **foreigner**. You did not have **hope** – and you did not have God. 13 You were far away from God – but Jesus' blood **brought** you **near** to God. 19 Now you are not a foreigner. You are a citizen with all God's people. You are in God's family.

2 Cor. 5:17 All people who believe in Jesus become new people – they are new **creations**. The old is **gone**. The new has come. 18 This is Creator God's gift to us! God makes us his **friends**! 20 And God gives us **special** work to do. So we say to **other** people: 'Please become Creator God's friend too!' God wants us to **speak** for him – God wants to **invite** other people through us.

CONTENT QUESTIONS**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What was Ruth & Naomi's **situation** before Boaz redeemed them? Do you **remember**?

(Shame & **Emptiness**: **poor**, **widows**, no children, no **heir**, no **protection or protector**, **losing** their **land**, their family line ending)

- What was Ruth & Naomi's situation after Boaz redeemed them?

(Honor & Blessing: **riches**, a husband, a child, an heir, their family line continuing, a protector, getting back their land, becoming the ancestor of King David and the Messiah.)

What one thing that **changed** Ruth and Naomi's situation?
Where did their honor and blessing come from?

Important Question:
Boaz was very kind to Ruth from the **beginning**.

But what **happens**, if Ruth says to Boaz, "I don't want to marry you?"

- What is the name of Boaz & Ruth's baby? (Ruth 4:17)
- Obed is the **grandfather** of whom? (Matthew 1:5-6)
- Who was born 28 generations after King David? (verse 17)

Did Boaz & Ruth know about Creator God's great, **future** plans?
Or, did Boaz & Ruth **mostly** think about their **own** lives?

Why is it important for us to believe in God?
Is it only important for us **personally**?
Who **else** is it important for?

Do we know how God will use us many **years** from now?

- How did God honor Abraham? (Genesis 12:2)
- When Creator God talked to Abraham, who else was God thinking about? (verse 3)

Was God thinking only about Israel?

Was God also thinking about your country?
What did God want to do for your people? (verse 3)

How long has God been thinking about your country?

[This is at the very beginning of the Bible! –

about page 10 of the 1000 page English Bible –

and about page 15 of the 2000 page Japanese Bible.]

- How did God bless all people in the world through Abraham?
(Matthew 1:2 & 17, Abraham —> Messiah)
- What was Judah's special position in Israel? (Genesis 49:10)

Who do you think is the true owner of the scepter? (Luke 1:32)

- Why did God choose David to be king? (1 Samuel 13:14)
- What did God promise David? (Psalm 89:3)

Who do you think will sit on David's throne forever?

- Who was Jesus' mother? (Luke 1:26-31)
- Who was Jesus' real father? (Luke 1:32, 35)
 - Who was Jesus' stepfather on earth? (Matthew 1:18-20)
- Whose throne will Jesus sit on? How long will Jesus' kingdom last? (Luke 1:32-33)
- What does Jesus name mean? Why was Jesus given this name? (Matthew 1:21)
- Why did God the Father send his Son into the world? (John 3:17)
- How does God feel about the world? (John 3:16)

Boaz was Ruth and Naomi's redeemer.

Who is the Redeemer for the whole world?

- Can people see Creator God? (Romans 1:20)
- We cannot see God, but can we know about Creator God? (Romans 1:19)
 - What can we know about God? (verse 20)
 - Why can we know this? (verse 20)
- Do people praise and thank God? (verse 21)

Do you think that this is rude and shameful?

- What is everyone's shameful situation before Jesus redeems them?
(Ephesians 2:1-3) (and Ephesians 2:12)
- How does God feel about people? (Ephesians 2:4)
- So what does God do for people? (Ephesians 2:5-7)
- What does God redeem people from? (1 Peter 1:18)

Is God saying:

Everything about our culture is bad?

Everything about our ancestors' way of life is bad?

Or is Creator God saying:

We must believe in Jesus – we must love and obey our Heavenly Father?

And we should thank God for our family and our country?

We should enjoy the good things about our family and country?

But we must not do the bad things that people do in our country?

And we must not pray to our ancestors' gods?

- How does God redeem us? How does he buy us back – and bring us back to himself? (verse 19)
 - How can people get saved? (Ephesians 2:8)
 - What does God do for us? (verse 8)
 - Can we save ourselves? (verse 8)
 - What must we not do? (verse 9)
 - Who makes people good? (verse 10)
- What is our honorable situation after Jesus redeems us?
(Ephesians 2:13, 19 & 2 Corinthians 5:17)

How big is God's plan to redeem us?

How big is God's plan to make us his friends? His family?

God chose us in Jesus before he made the world.

Ephesians 1:4

Creator God	創造者、創造主、天地創造の神様
small	小さい
plan	計画、計画を立てる
bless	祝福する
honor	栄誉、名誉、重んじる
marry	結婚する
help	助ける、助け
become - became - became	になる、なる
pregnant – (become) pregnant	妊娠する、身ごもる
have - had - had (a baby)	(赤ちゃんを) 生む
Bethlehem	ベツレヘム（ダビデ王の故郷・イエスはこの町で生まれた）
praise	ほめたたえる、賛美する、褒める、たたえる
redeemer	救ってくださる人
named	名付けられた
very	非常に
great	大変な
all	すべて
world	世、世界
use	使う、用いる、利用する
about	について、約
B.C.	紀元前
tribe	部族、氏族、（イスラエルの12）部族
then	そして、その場合、その時、そしたら
generation	世代、時代
later	あとで、その後
king	王
from	から
Messiah Messiah = Christ, chosen by God to be the eternal Savior, King, High Priest	メシア、メシア＝キリスト、メシヤは神に任命された永遠の救い主、王、大祭司
make - made - made	造る、作る、させる
Israel	イスラエル

through	を通して
what	何
how	どう、どのくらい
always	いつも
scepter	王笏、王権を表す棒
until	まで
TRUE	真実
owner	持ち主、オーナー
come - came - come	来る
take - took - taken	連れていく、取る、受け取る、持っていく、奪う
country	国
obey	従う
who	誰
prophet	預言者
first	第一、一番目、最初、まず、初めに、最初の
foolish	愚かな
command	命令する、戒める、命令、戒め
so	だから、それで、それに従って、そのためには、そんなに
kingdom	王国
end	果て、終える、最後、終わり
find - found - found	見つける
follow	従う、についていく、後をついていく
love	愛する、愛
choose - chose - (have) chosen	選ぶ、選んだ、選んだことがある
oil	油
pour	注ぐ
anoint	油を注ぐ（王として任命するため）
Spirit (Holy Spirit)	聖霊、神様の霊、キリストの霊
power	力
promise	約束する、約束
family line	家系

forever	永久に、永遠に
throne	玉座
continue	続けて、続く、続ける
sit - sat - sat	座る
send - sent - sent	見送る、送る、使いにやる
angel	天使
Gabriel	ガブリエル（偉大な中心の天使）
virgin	処女, バージン
Mary	マリア、マリヤ（イエスの母）
engage	婚約する
Joseph	ヨセフ（イエスの継父）
must	しなければならない
call	呼ぶ、呼びかける、名付ける
Most High God	いと高き方（神様）
ancestor	先祖
never	決して、一度も～ない
possible	可能
answer	答える、答え
Holy Spirit	聖霊、神様の霊、キリストの霊
over	の上を、の上に、より
nothing	何もない、何でもない、無
impossible	不可能な、果たせない
sleep - slept - slept	(妻と) 寝る
together	一緒に
dream	夢
afraid	恐れる、恐る、怖くなる
inside	中に、うち、内側
save	救う、助ける
sin	悪い考え、態度、言葉、行い – 神様に従わないこと – 罪、罪を犯す
Lord	主、天地創造の神様
only	だけ、のみ、ただ、ひとりの、ただ一人の、ただ一つの

heaven	天国
much	大いに
if	もし
believe	信じる
spiritually	靈的に
but	しかし
thankful	ありがたい
can - could	できる
know - knew - known	知る
clear	明らか
everyone	皆
cannot	わけにはいけない、できない
really	本当に、実に、とても
why	なぜ、どうして
creation	創造すること
clearly	明らかに
excuse (eks-KYOOS)	言い訳
thank	感謝する
take away - took away - taken away	取り除く、奪う
shame	恥
before	前、以前、の前
dead	死んでる
Satan	悪魔、サタン
work	働く、動かす
bad	悪い
desires	欲望、望み
thought	思い
of course	もちろん
anger	怒り
mercy	哀れみ
alive	生きてる
alive again	再び生きる、復活する

too	～すぎる、あまりに、も
wonderful	素晴らしい
gift	贈り物、賜物
by	によって
grace	恵、神様からの大いなる祝福
now	今、もう、さて、それで
eternity	永遠
show - showed - shown	見せる、表す、示す
amazing	驚くべき、不思議、びっくりするような、すごい
kind	親切
empty (adjective)	空っぽ、空虚、虚しい
way of life	生き方
money	お金
last	最後の、続く、残る
precious	貴重、尊い
blood	血
yourself	あなた自身
try	試みる、やろうとする
boast	自慢する
already	すでに
decide	決める
works	働き、行い
far	遠く
citizen	国民、市民
foreigner	外人
hope	希望
bring - brought - brought	連れてくる、持ってくる
near	近く
creation	新しく造られた者
go - went - gone	行く、去る、いない、過ぎ去った、いなくなった
friend	友、友達、友人

special	特別、特別な、特徴ある、特殊、大事な、大切な
other	他の、他
speak - spoke - spoken	話す、語る
invite	招待する、招く

situation	状況、事態、状態
remember	思い出す、偲ぶ
emptiness	空、空虚
poor	貧しい
widow	やもめ、寡婦、夫が亡くなった女
heir	跡継ぎ
protection	保護、守ること
or	または、あるいは
protector	保護者、守ってくれる人
lose - lost - lost	失う
land	地、土地、陸地
riches	富
change	変わる、変える
important	大切、重要な、大事な、重大、優れる、えらい（人）
beginning	初め、始まり
happen	起こる
grandfather	お祖父さん、祖父
future	将来、未来
mostly	ほとんど
own	所有する、持つ、有する
personally	個人的に、密接に
else	他に
year	年
how long	どのくらい（の長さ・の時間）
page	ページ
special	特別、特別な、特徴ある、特殊、大事な、大切な

real	本当の、実際の
stepfather	継父
earth	地、地球
whole	全部、すべて、全体
rude	失礼
shameful	見っともない、恥じるべき
culture	文化
should	すべき、起こるべき
pray	祈る
gods	神々
buy back - bought back - bought back	買い戻す
bring back - brought back - brought back	連れ戻す
ourselves	私たち自身