

“There is a Redeemer”

1. The Book of Ruth – Introduction

Purpose: to introduce the concept of a “redeemer” and present Jesus as our redeemer

Introduction: We are going to do something very different in Bible time this semester. We are going to read a book of the Bible. We will read all the book! We will read the book of Ruth. It is in the Old Testament. It is the story of a young woman.

But every story in the Bible is also about Jesus. For example, why is the book of Ruth in the Bible? One reason is, because Ruth was an ancestor of Jesus. She was one of Jesus’ great-grandmothers.

But also, the book of Ruth shows us a picture of a “redeemer.” Jesus is a “redeemer.” Let’s see what Jesus said about Himself. Let’s read a verse from the New Testament, and answer this question:

“Why did the Son of Man come?”

But first, who is the “Son of Man”? (wait) Jesus called Himself “The Son of Man.” This is a name from a book in the Old Testament. The Jews who were listening to Him knew about that Old Testament book. They knew that Jesus was saying that He was the answer to the prophecies in that book. So, the “Son of Man” is Jesus. (Teachers FYI the book is Ezekiel)

Read: Matthew 20:28

Answer the question.

Jesus came to “redeem” many people.

The Jews spoke a language that we call Hebrew. An important Hebrew word in the Book of Ruth is GOEL.(Write on board) It means ‘redeemer’. ‘*Redeem’ means ‘buy back again’. Here is an example. Someone buys an animal from you. Later, you go and buy that animal back for yourself. You have *redeemed the animal.

We call Jesus ‘The *Redeemer’. It is one of his many names. God made everybody. But nobody obeyed God’s rules. Some tried, but could not. Everybody became a slave to sin. Sin is what we do when we do not obey God’s rules. When Jesus died, he bought men back from sin. He *redeemed them. So, if we thank Jesus for *redeeming us, we are not slaves to sin any more. We become part of the Church of Jesus Christ. And remember ... it does not matter who you are, Jesus can be your *Redeemer. Just ask him! You can be a man or a woman or a child from any country in the world and JESUS CAN BE YOUR *REDEEMER!

Do you have any questions or comments?

Next week we will begin the story of Ruth.