

BIBLE TYPES, SHADOWS AND THEIR FULFILLMENT

Lesson 10 – TYPES IN JOSHUA & RUTH

by Beverly McKey

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The book of Joshua ended with allotment of land to each tribe in Israel.
1. While the tribe of Levi did not get a section of territory, they were given cities in each of the tribes.
 2. God gave Israel peace after the settlement and none of their enemies stood against them. **Joshua 21:44**
 3. God had, indeed, kept every promise He had made to the house of Israel. **Joshua 21:45**
- B. By this time Joshua was advanced in age and he gave a farewell address to the nation of Israel. **Joshua 24**
1. He warned them to be courageous and to keep all the commandments written in the Book of the Law of Moses, not turning to the left or right of any of them. **Vs. 6**
 2. He warned them against even mentioning the names of the false gods of the heathen people around them. **Vs. 7**
 3. He warned them against mixing with or marry into the remnant of the heathen nations that remained among them because they would be like traps, scourges and thorns in your eyes, since they failed to drive them all out like God commanded them to do. **Vs. 13**
 4. He informed them that he was about to die and that every promise the Lord had made had been abundantly fulfilled. **Vs. 14**
 5. He made it clear that, since God had kept His promise, they were obligated to be obedient to His law OR they would suffer the anger of God and they would perish from the land He had given them. **Vs. 15-16**
- C. Joshua then gathered all the elders and leaders from each tribe to Shechem.
1. To this group of leaders, Joshua emphasized the fact that the people must faithfully serve God, for He is a jealous God.
 2. Joshua plainly stated that if they forsake the Lord and serve foreign Gods that God would consume them even after He had blessed them so much. **Vs. 19**
 3. The people then swore that they would faithfully serve the Lord.
 4. Joshua died at the age of one hundred-ten years.
 5. Israel served the Lord all the days of Joshua's life and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had known all the great works of the Lord.

II. The Israelites failed to rid the promised land of the heathen inhabitants, as the Lord had commanded them to do. **Judges 1**

- A. When God saw their failure, He said: **Judges 2:3** – “*Therefore, I also said, 'I will not drive them out before you; but they shall be thorns in your side, and their gods shall be a snare to you.'*”
- B. When the elders that knew God had all died, another generation arose after them who did not know the Lord nor the work He had done for Israel. **Judges 2:10**

- C. Then the cycle began for Israel that was repeated for hundreds of years.
1. The people of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals and they forsook God.
 2. In response to their unfaithfulness, God delivered them into the hands of their enemies.
 3. Wherever they went, the hand of God was against them causing calamity until the people were greatly distressed. **Judges 2:15**
- D. After a period of time, the Lord heard the cries of the Israelites and sent judges to deliver them from their enemies. **Judges 2:18**
1. The continuing problem of the Israelites, however, was that when the judge died, they reverted to idolatry and were more corrupt than ever.
 2. **Joshua 2:20-23** – ²⁰ *Then the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and He said, "Because this nation has transgressed My covenant which I commanded their fathers, and has not heeded My voice, ²¹ I also will no longer drive out before them any of the nations which Joshua left when he died, ²² so that through them I may test Israel, whether they will keep the ways of the LORD, to walk in them as their fathers kept them, or not."* ²³ *Therefore the LORD left those nations, without driving them out immediately; nor did He deliver them into the hand of Joshua."*

III. Reasons for Success or Failure in Israel and in the Christian life.

- A. Seeking counsel from the Lord and obeying it brings victory in any age.
1. **Judges 1:1-2** – *"Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass that the children of Israel asked the Lord, saying, 'Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them?' And the Lord said, 'Judah shall go up.'"*
 2. It is always wise to seek God's will in any matter, but it is doubly important to obey His will when it is known.
 3. The apostle Paul asked the Roman believers to pray, **Judges 1:1-2** – "That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God." (**Romans 15:32**).
 4. Uniting to fight brought victory to certain tribes of Israel.
 - a. **Judges 1:3** – ³ *So Judah said to Simeon his brother, "Come up with me to my allotted territory, that we may fight against the Canaanites; and I will likewise go with you to your allotted territory." And Simeon went with him."*
 - b. Simeon helped Judah secure victory; and then Judah helped Simeon win a victory.
 - 1) **Judges 1:4** – ⁴ *Then Judah went up, and the LORD delivered the Canaanites and the Perizzites into their hand; and they killed ten thousand men at Bezek."*
 - 2) **Judges 1:17** – *"And Judah went with his brother Simeon, and they attacked the Canaanites who inhabited Zephath, and utterly destroyed it. So the name of the city was called Hormah."*
 - 3) **Judges 1:19** – *"So the LORD was with Judah. And they drove out the mountaineers, but they could not drive out the inhabitants of the lowland, because they had chariots of iron."*
 - c. Though the tribes helped one another, the secret of their victory was that the Lord was with them and gave their enemies into their hands.

B. Christians are also involved in warfare still today. The enemy is Satan.

1. **Ephesians 6:10-18** – *“¹⁰ Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ above all, taking the shield of faith with which, you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. ¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—”*
2. **Matthew 18:19-21** – *“¹⁹ Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”*
3. We must remember, however, that God’s assistance in helping us be victorious in the work He has in mind for us may be very different from what we expect it to be.
4. Paul was selected by God for a very important mission by God when he was called to the service of Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus.
 - a. When Ananias was afraid to go to Saul, God said this to Ananias:
Acts 9:15 – *“But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. ¹⁶ For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake.”*
 - b. After establishing many churches among the Gentiles, Paul’s greatest desire was to go to Rome.
Acts:21 – *“When these things were accomplished, Paul purposed in the Spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia, to go to Jerusalem, saying, ‘After I have been there, I must also see Rome.’”*
 - c. It was also God’s plan for Paul to go to Rome, but I am sure the path by which Paul would get to Rome was surely an unexpected one for him.
 - d. **Acts 23:10-11** – *“¹⁰ Now when there arose a great dissension, the commander, fearing lest Paul might be pulled to pieces by them, commanded the soldiers to go down and take him by force from among them, and bring him into the barracks. ¹¹ But the following night the Lord stood by him and said, “Be of good cheer, Paul; for as you have testified for Me in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness at Rome.””*
 - e. So, Paul was taken to Rome as a prisoner to be tried by the highest officials in the nation.
 - 1) First, Paul was taken to the governor, Felix to plead his case. **Acts 24:10**
 - 2) When Felix heard his story and also the gospel of Christ, Felix delayed making a judgment, saying: *“Go away for now; when I have a convenient time, I will call for you. Meanwhile he also hoped that*

money would be given him by Paul, that he might release him. Therefore, Felix sent for Paul more often and conversed with him."

- 3) After two years, Porcius Festus succeeded Felix as governor and since Felix wanted to do a favor for the Jews, left Paul imprisoned. **Acts 24:27**
- 4) When Festus was there three days, the chief men of the Jews spoke against Paul and asked Festus to send him back to Jerusalem, so they could try him in their own courts. **Acts 25:1-4**
- 5) Festus wanted to help the Jews, so he asked Paul if he was willing to go back to Jerusalem and be judged there, but Paul refused and made an appeal to be heard by Caesar, which was his right as a Roman citizen. **Acts 25:9-12**
- 6) After some time had passed, King Agrippa and his wife, Bernice, came to visit Festus.
 - a) Festus told them about Paul's case, and Agrippa asked to hear Paul's case himself.
 - b) The next day, Agrippa and Bernice had Paul brought in to be heard.
 - c) After listening to Paul tell the story of his conversion to Christianity, Agrippa said: "*You almost persuade me to become a Christian.*" **Acts 25:28**
 - d) Agrippa then spoke to his wife Bernice and to Festus and they agreed that Paul had done nothing deserving death or even imprisonment.
 - e) They would have set Paul free except for the fact that Paul had appealed his case to Caesar, and so he had to be taken to Caesar.
- 7) The trip by sea took three months to get to Rome and they suffered shipwreck and other calamities during this time.
 - a) When they arrived in Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard, but Paul was permitted to live by himself in a house with a soldier guarding him. **Acts 28:16**
 - b) Paul lived in the rented house under guard for two years and taught all who came to him about the Lord Jesus Christ and no one forbid him from doing so.
- 8) Paul was able to teach the gospel of Christ to governors, kings and even eventually the Caesar himself when he was finally tried there
 - a) Paul's greatest desire was to go to Rome to teach the Gentiles there about Jesus, the Christ.
 - b) Little did he know that his desire would be fulfilled in such a way, but he accepted those conditions as part of God's plan for his life.
 - c) We saw that Paul was not afraid to speak the truth of the gospel to anyone who would listen, yet even Paul could not reach everyone he taught.
 - d) We have no evidence that any of the officials he taught ever obeyed the gospel, but many others who sought him out for his teaching did believe and obey the gospel of Christ.

C. Just as it was the Lord's presence and help that gave victory in Old Testament times, it also brings victory in modern times.

1. The Great commission to the Church is followed by this promise of the Lord's presence to those who obey:
 - a. **Matthew 28:19-20** – *"¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*
 - 1) Has the Christian age ended yet? No, we are still living in that age.
 - 2) Then we can claim this promise that Jesus gave to His disciples that day.
 - 3) If we claim that promise, then we must also claim the responsibility of teaching others to "observe all things" that Jesus has taught."
 - b. If we obey Christ's orders, He promises to go with us in carrying them out.
2. Those who have experienced victory in the Christian life should challenge young people to be victorious as well.
 - a. In the fight to rid the land of the heathen nations, Caleb offered a challenge to the young fighting men.
 - 1) **Judges 1:12-13** – *"¹² Then Caleb said, "Whoever attacks Kirjath Sepher and takes it, to him I will give my daughter Achsah as wife."*
 - 2) Caleb could challenge young men to do courageous tasks, because he himself was a victor in battle.
 - b. Paul, who was also victorious in the Christian life also challenged young Timothy:
 - 1) **II Timothy 2:1-3** – *"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. ³ You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.*
 - 2) Paul did not just encourage young Timothy in words, he also took him on as a co-worker to train him thoroughly in the work of establishing churches among the Gentiles.
 - 3) We should be willing to draw others into the work of the Lord in whatever work we may be involved in ourselves.
 - a) We may teach the young women to teach children's class, personal Bible studies or even Ladies Class.
 - b) We may teach young women (or older women) to serve others by enlisting them to help you provide food for the sick or elderly.
 - c) We may teach other women to reach out to those in need by inviting them to go with us to visit the hospitals or the home bound elderly members who are in need of our personal attention.
 - d) We may encourage others to participate in the bear ministry by getting them to help us with some part of that process.
 - e) We can encourage young men when they are beginning to participate in the worship service through public prayers or singing.
 - f) We must also encourage young women who are willing to participate in Ladies Class or Ladies Half Day by offering prayers or

leading singing. It is not easy to put yourself in that position and they should be praised for making the effort to overcome the fear.

3. Providential guidance leads to victory as it did in the case of the tribe of Joseph.
 - a. The tribe of Joseph providentially discovered a man who gave information about a secret entrance to the city of Bethel which lead to their conquering of the city.
 - 1) **Judges 1:22-25** – *“²² And the house of Joseph also went up against Bethel, and the LORD was with them. ²³ So the house of Joseph sent men to spy out Bethel. (The name of the city was formerly Luz.) ²⁴ And when the spies saw a man coming out of the city, they said to him, “Please show us the entrance to the city, and we will show you mercy.” ²⁵ So he showed them the entrance to the city, and they struck the city with the edge of the sword; but they let the man and all his family go.”*
 - 2) God’s providence allowed the spies from Israel to meet just the right person to give them information that would lead to their victory over the city of Bethel.
 - 3) God’s providence is provided to those who seek His will and are ready to follow it when it is revealed to them.
 - b. Failure to unite caused incomplete victory in Bible times and often does today.
 - 1) The city of Jerusalem was given partially to Benjamin and partially unto Judah, with the larger part going to Benjamin.
 - 2) Both Judah and Benjamin were commanded to drive out the heathen nations from their allotted territories.
 - 3) The tribe of Judah did their job:
 - a) **Judges 1:8** – *“Now the children of Judah fought against Jerusalem and took it; they struck it with the edge of the sword and set the city on fire.”*
 - b) **Judges 1:21** – *“But the children of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites who inhabited Jerusalem; so the Jebusites dwell with the children of Benjamin in Jerusalem to this day.”*
 - c) Judah won over the enemy in his section of the city, but Benjamin did not in his part of the city.
 - d) The two tribes ought to have co-operated in driving the enemy clear out of the city. Instead of this the enemy remained there until the time of David.
 - c. In the 1950’s and 1960’s, the churches of Christ were the fastest growing religious group in the United States. What happen since then?
 - 1) In the 1950’s and 1960’s, the gospel message was united.
 - a) The plan of salvation was solidified in stone. No one challenged it.
 - b) Today, however, some progressive churches are wavering on the necessity of baptism to salvation.
 - c)

- d) Many of them are accepting members who simply profess their belief in Jesus Christ and have not been baptized for the remission of their sins.
- 2) The refusal to use instruments in the worship service in churches of Christ was also a universally accepted doctrine.
 - a) Today, churches are wavering on this teaching by offering two worship services, one with instruments and one without instruments.
 - b) Such division within one congregation indicates that the eldership of such churches no longer except acapella singing only in worship and are permitting instruments to be used, which is giving their approval to instruments.
- 3) Forbidding women to hold leadership roles in the church was once universally accepted among churches of Christ.
 - a) Today, women are being assigned the title of “minister” various programs in the church.
 - b) In some progressive churches, women are serving communion.
 - c) A few of the most progressive churches now have women offering public prayers and teaching adult classes including men.
- d. These divisions among churches of Christ has damaged the reputation of the churches of Christ as a whole.
 - 1) While we have professed that we know the truth of the New Testament, these divisions give the denominational world much to criticize about the Lord’s church today.
 - 2) The quick growth of these progressive churches is used as “proof” that they are right because they say they are reaching and saving more souls than the conservative churches like the Beltline Road church here in Irving.
 - 3) However, no matter how great the number of members a church enjoys, it is not a measure of whether they are teaching the truth.
 - 4) Many people are drawn to churches who provide more of an entertainment value with special musical performances, skits and fluffy sermons that never seem to condemn any worldly lifestyle.
- e. Sometimes we feel like the prophet, Elijah, when he said:
 - 1) **I Kings 19:14** – *“And he said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.”*
 - 2) God’s response to Elijah’s self-pity party was this:
 - a) **I Kings 19:18** – *“Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”*
 - b) Even when we the progressive/liberal churches grow so quickly, we must not be envious of their gain, because they are not teaching the same gospel that the Apostles recorded for our knowledge in how we must worship God.

- c) This should give us more courage and determination to study the Bible to know how to counteract questionable teachings that are risking the souls of many who are deceived by erroneous teaching.
- d) This is why is it so important to make sure that the elders of every New Testament church are qualified men who will protect their flock against erroneous teaching and unauthorized practices in the Bible classes and the worship services.
- e) No church who has scripturally strong elders will veer off into progressive/liberal interpretations of long established doctrine.
- f. Paul knew that doctrinal divisions would be a problem the church would eventually experience.
- g. **Ephesians 4: 11-14** – *“¹¹ And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—”*

IV. Types in the Book of Ruth

A. Naomi, A Type of the Wayward Christian Returning To God – **Ruth 1-3**

1. Naomi and her husband left the land of Israel during a famine.
 - a. They had to sell their allotment of land in Israel before going to Moab, where food was plentiful.
 - b. Naomi and her husband, Elimelech, along with their two sons Mahlon and Chilion were from the tribe of Judah. **Ruth 1:2**
 - c. The move was intended to temporary, but life was comfortable in Moab and they remained there many years.
2. Over time, Naomi’s husband died, but she still had her two sons to support her.
 - a. Her sons took wives from the women of Moab; their names were Orpah and Ruth.
 - b. When they had lived there about ten years, both of Naomi’s sons died.
 - c. This was not only a tragedy for a mother to suffer, but it left Naomi and her daughters-in-law with no one to support them.
3. Naomi was forced to go back to her homeland of Judah.
 - a. Naomi had heard that food was now plentiful in Israel, so she told her daughters-in-law to go back to their families since she would have to go back to her home in Judah.
 - b. Naomi wanted her daughters-in-law to have a better life, since they had been so kind to her beloved sons.
 - c. But the two women surprised her and said they would return to Judah with Naomi. **Ruth 1:10**
 - d. Naomi was bitter at the calamity that had befallen her in Moab saying *“the Lord has gone out against me!”*

- e. She discouraged the women saying, **Ruth 1:12-13** – *“Turn back, my daughters, go – for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, if I should have a husband tonight and should also bear sons,¹³ would you wait for them till they were grown? Would you restrain yourselves from having husbands? No, my daughters; for it grieves me very much for your sakes that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me!”*
 - 1) Orpah, then kissed Naomi and returned to her family, but Ruth clung to Naomi, refusing to leave.
 - 2) Ruth loved Naomi very much or she would not have chosen to stay with Naomi over going back to her own family, which is a testimonial to Naomi.
4. All of Bethlehem was excited when Naomi returned, but Naomi told them that the *“Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me. I went out full, and the Lord has brought me home again empty.”* **Ruth 1:20**
 - a. Naomi and Ruth arrived in Bethlehem at the beginning of the harvest season.
 - b. The Law of Moses provided a method of feeding the poorest in the nation of Israel.
 - 1) **Leviticus 19:9-10** – *“⁹ When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest. ¹⁰ And you shall not glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather every grape of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger: I am the Lord your God.”*
 - 2) Naomi and Ruth depended upon this method of gathering food to help them survive.
 - c. The Law of Moses also provided for those who were forced to sell their portion of the inherited tribal land.
 - 1) **Leviticus 25:25-27** – *“²⁵ If one of your brethren becomes poor, and has sold some of his possession, and if his redeeming relative comes to redeem it, then he may redeem what his brother sold. ²⁶ Or if the man has no one to redeem it, but he himself becomes able to redeem it, ²⁷ then let him count the years since its sale and restore the remainder to the man to whom he sold it, that he may return to his possession. ²⁸ But if he is not able to have it restored to himself, then what was sold shall remain in the hand of him who bought it until the Year of Jubilee; and in the Jubilee it shall be released, and he shall return to his possession. ²⁹ If a man sells a house in a walled city, then he may redeem it within a whole year after it is sold; within a full year he may redeem it. ³⁰ But if it is not redeemed within the space of a full year, then the house in the walled city shall belong permanently to him who bought it, throughout his generations. It shall not be released in the Jubilee.”*
 - 2) When the land of Canaan was conquered and the land was allotted to each tribe (and each family in the tribe), it was God’s intention that they would not be able to permanently sell their inheritance to another.”

- 3) This was the situation that Naomi was in. Since she and her husband had sold the land prior to going to Moab, she needed a kinsman who was willing to redeem the land for her.
5. Boaz was a relative of Naomi's husband and he had great wealth.
- a. Ruth began gleaning from Boaz's field to provide food for her and Naomi.
 - b. Boaz noticed Ruth working in the field and asked who she was.
 - c. When he learned that she was related to Naomi, he took her under his protection and told her to glean only in his fields and he would make sure none of the men bothered her.
 - d. When Naomi learned that Boaz had taken notice of Ruth, she was very happy since Boaz was a relative who could redeem her land for her.
 - e. Naomi instructed Ruth to go to Boaz after he was asleep, uncover his feet and lie down next to them, then Boaz would tell her what she should do.
 - f. Apparently, this was a chaste method that single women could indicate that they wanted the protection of marriage from this man.
 - g. At midnight, Boaz suddenly awoke and saw Ruth lying at his feet and asked who she was.
 - h. Ruth answered: **Ruth 3:9** – *"I am Ruth, your maidservant. Take your maidservant under your wing, for you are a close relative."*
 - i. Boaz praised Ruth for not seek out a younger man, whether rich or poor, and he promised to do all that Ruth asked.
 - j. However, Boaz knew that there was one man who was a nearer kinsman to Naomi than he was, so he went to that man and informed him that Ruth was in need of the nearest kinsman to marry her and redeem the land Naomi's husband had owned.
 - k. At first this man was eager to get the extra land, but when he learned that he had to marry Ruth and her first child born would be counted as the son of Ruth's dead husband in order to preserve the land in his name, he refused to redeem the land.
 - l. Boaz was happy at this decision and determined to marry Ruth and redeem the land himself.
 - m. Naomi and Ruth were blessed above any measure they could have expected once they returned to Israel and the people of God.
- B. Troubles in the land of Moab caused Naomi to return to Israel, and oftentimes the Lord uses trouble to bring wayward Christians back to Him. "
1. Naomi was willing to stay in Moab as long as life was comfortable, and she had her family.
 2. Naomi only thought about returning to her homeland when life became impossible in Moab.
 3. The prophet Hosea gave an example of God using trials to get His people to earnestly seek Him again.
 - a. **Hosea 5:14-15** – *"¹⁴ For I will be like a lion to Ephraim, and like a young lion to the house of Judah. I, even I, will tear them and go away; I will take them away, and no one shall rescue. ¹⁵ I will return again to My place till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me."*

- 1) Even today, God may allow severe trials to come to the wayward Christian to force them to think of returning to God.
- b. Naomi's return to the land of Israel caused Ruth to go with her; and the wayward Christian who returns to the Lord may also leads others to Christ.
4. The experience of Naomi is similar to that of wayward Christians today.
 - a. Unfortunately, some Christians allow their commitment to serving God grow weaker. When this happens, it is easier for them to be tempted by worldly pleasures.
 - b. Paul pointed out one who had done so in **II Timothy 4:10** – *"...for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica."*
 - c. Like Naomi, the wayward Christian begins by excursions into the world with the thinking they would one day return to the Lord.
 - d. But the time lengthens out into years, and deeper involvement in the worldly life postpones restoration indefinitely.
 - 1) The problem with their plan to return someday is, we are not guaranteed tomorrow, much less next year.
 - 2) What if they die before being restored?
 - 3) Naomi's family intended to return to Judah someday, but her husband and her two sons died before it was accomplished.
 - e. How easy it is for hearts to be hardened and bad habits to form.
 - 1) **Hebrews 3:12-13** – *"¹² Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; ¹³ but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."*
 - 2) **I Corinthians 15:33** – *"Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits.'"*
 - 3) It may begin at first with skipping worship on Sunday for more entertaining opportunities or for company coming or for work at home that needs to be completed.
 - 4) Once the commitment is broken to be present at every service possible, it gets easier and easier for one to slide farther down that path away from God.
 - f. It never becomes impossible to return to God, even though it may be embarrassing to have to admit before others that worldly concerns have taken the place of our commitment to God.
 - 1) David is a great example of making some disastrous, sinful decisions.
 2 Samuel 11
 - a) First, he lusted after a woman who was not his wife, Bathsheba.
 - b) She was the wife of one of the soldiers in David's army, Uriah, the Hittite.
 - c) David committed adultery with Bathsheba, who was likely an innocent woman unable to prevent the King of Israel from abusing her.
 - d) When David learned that Bathsheba was expecting his child, David used his power as commander in chief of the army to have Uriah

assigned to the most dangerous position in the front of a battle where he was sure to be killed.

- e) David was not ignorant of God's law regarding adultery, but he allowed his worldly lust to win over his commitment to God.
 - f) When David was accused by Nathan, the prophet, he said:
 - i. **2 Sam. 12:15** – *"I have sinned against the Lord."*
 - ii. Nathan responded by saying: *"The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. ¹⁴ However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die."*
- 2) While God forgave David, because he was sincerely repentant, God did not eliminate the consequences that bad decisions often bring.
- a) Many who leave their Christian life and embrace the world have also given the world cause to disparage Christians and the church because of their actions.
 - b) Worldly people love to characterize Christians as hypocrites who teach one thing and do another, which is what the wayward Christian has shown them.
- 3) When David confessed his sin to the Lord and was forgiven and restored to the Lord, then he was able to be influential in converting sinners to God.
- a) David wrote in **Psalm 51:12-13** – *"¹² Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me by Your generous Spirit. ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You."*
 - b) The same thing can happen to wayward Christians who are returned to the fellowship of the church.
 - i. They may have experiences that will help counsel others who are in danger of slipping away from the church too.
 - ii. They would surely be helpful to others who return to the church after having left the church for a worldly life.
 - iii. The returning wayward Christian may be more useful than ever in the church when they have learned that the pleasures that the Devil offers in the world are far less satisfying than they promised to be; and when they realize their souls are in danger.
- 4) Naomi and Ruth were blessed of God upon their return to the land of Israel; and God will bless all those who return unto Him.
- a) The Lord graciously blessed them following their return to the land.
 - b) The lost inheritance was restored through Boaz as kinsman-redeemer. And God always blesses the returning backslider. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:7).
 - c)

C. **Boaz**, A Type of Christ as Our Kinsman-Redeemer (Ruth 1-4)

1. When Elimelech and Naomi forsook the land of Israel for Moab, they mortgaged their property and home.
 - a. Then in the foreign land their two sons both died without sons.

- b. Their property would have been lost but for the help of a kinsman-redeemer. A kinsman-redeemer was a brother or the nearest male relative. He would pay the mortgage on the property and be expected to marry the widow of the deceased man and thus raise up the name of the deceased.
2. When Adam and Eve sinned, they and all their descendants lost their inheritance in God's kingdom because of sin.
3. Boaz is a type of Christ as our kinsman-redeemer because he was near of kin, and thus had the right to redeem the land by paying a price.
 - a. Jesus is a Brother to those He redeems, because he also lived as a human being.
 - b. **Hebrews 2:16-17** *"¹⁶ For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people."*
 - c. Because the Son of man was a genuine human being, He has the right to redeem for man his lost inheritance, being near of kin.
4. As kinsman-redeemer Boaz is a type of Christ, because he was able to redeem because he was wealthy.
 - a. Being wealthy, there was no question about the ability of Boaz to pay off the mortgage on the estate of Elimelech. He could well afford to do it.
 - b. Jesus Christ is our kinsman redeemer because he had all of the resources of God to make it possible.
5. Our Kinsman-Redeemer must be Man and He must be God.
 - a. Because He is Man, He has the right to redeem.
 - b. Because He is God, He has the ability to redeem.
 - c. Actually, Jesus bought us by the price of His blood.
 - d. **I Corinthians 6:20** – *"For you are bought with a price."*
6. As kinsman-redeemer Boaz is a type of Christ because he was willing to redeem.
 - a. Boaz became the kinsman redeemer for Naomi and Ruth because the nearer kinsman was not willing to fulfill this obligation.
 - b. And Jesus was willing to redeem sinful man and thus win back for him his lost inheritance.
 - 1) **Philippians 2:5-8** – *"⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*
 - 2) Here we see the willingness of Jesus to turn His back on the glories of Heaven in order to come to earth to redeem man by dying on Calvary's cross.
7. As kinsman-redeemer Boaz is a type of Christ because he loved the one redeemed.
 - a. **Ruth 4:10** – *¹⁰ Moreover, Ruth the Moabitess, the widow of Mahlon, I have acquired as my wife, to perpetuate the name of the dead through*

his inheritance, that the name of the dead may not be cut off from among his brethren and from his position at the gate. You are witnesses this day.”

- b. Boaz was willing to be Ruth’s redeemer because he loved her and was willing to marry her.
- c. Because Jesus loves us, He died for us and thereby became our Redeemer. **Galatians 2:20** -- *“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.”*
- d. Jesus Christ, the antitype, is far greater than Boaz, the type, therefore, the inheritance of Christ is greater than the inheritance of Boaz.
- e. How grateful we must be for Jesus, our Kinsman-Redeemer.