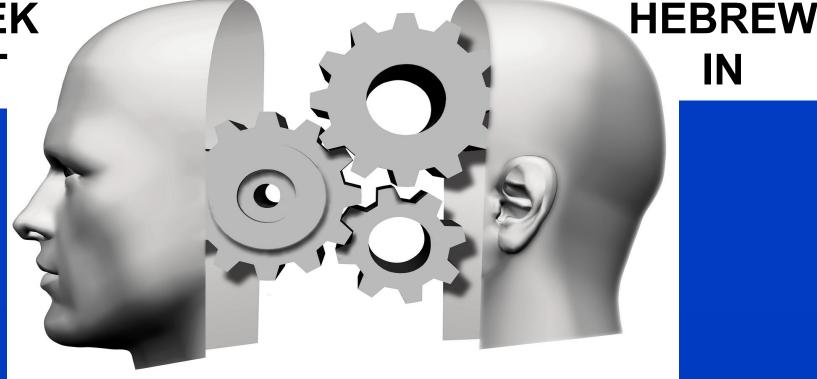
WHO WILL BE THE GO'EL?



- Legal proceedings to decide who will be the go'el for Na'omi take place at the city gate of Bethlehem
- Verse 3 begins a difficult dialogue between Boaz and Mr. So and So
- Was Na'omi's land already sold or was this negotiation at the city gate when the land would be sold?

GREEK OUT

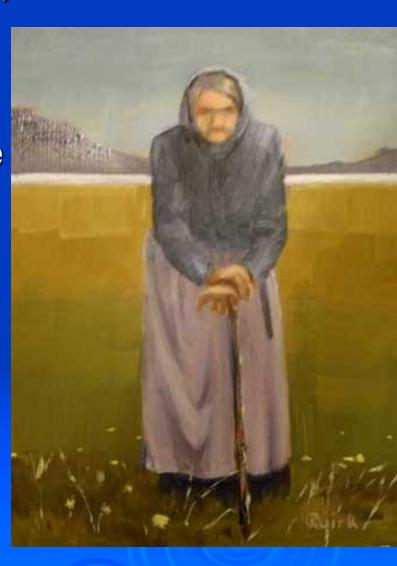


IN

- Many assumptions by bible scholars that the book of Ruth has been corrupted
- Thus these scholars substitute their own stories
- Westerners think and reason in a Greek/Western Roman manner
- Bible is an Eastern type of thinking and reasoning

NA'OMI, NOT RUTH, IS CENTRAL

- Na'omi is the widow of Elimelech, the land's owner
- Na'omi has NO control over the land because she's not a legal heir
- Land could be in the hands of different families, but it was always to stay in the same clan
- Laws of Jubilee returned land to the original owners every 50 years



Hebrew system NOT the American System

- U.S.A. We can OWN property
- Bible, you can USE property
- God was the literal owner of all land in the Promised Land
- Fee Simple = owner has absolute control, right to sell, new owner receives the full rights to the land in perpetuity

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WHO OWNED THE LAND?

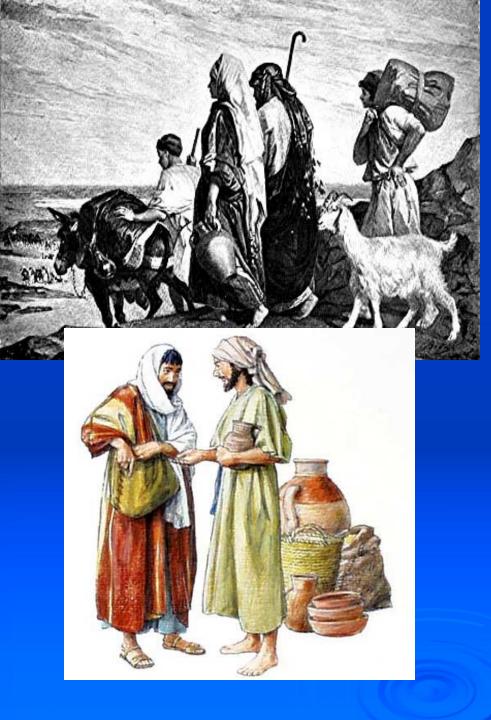
PERSON

Na'omi could NOT have been the owner because she had no legal right

But if Na'omi didn't own the land at this time, WHO DID ????

LAND
PREVIOUSLY
SOLD TO AN
UNNAMED
LAND IS
NOW BEING
SOLD AT
CITY GATE

NA'OMI NOT OWNER



LAND SOLD OUTSIDE THE FAMILY

- Elimelech sold land to some other clan
- If a member of his OWN clan had purchased it, it was to be returned
- Whoever would be go'el for Na'omi would have to PAY to redeem the land

WHERE DOES RUTH FIT?

- Why must Mr. So and So have to marry Ruth?
- Levirate Marriage plays NO ROLE in this situation
- No Torah law requires a go'el to marry a widow or produce an heir for a deceased family member
- The senior redeemer says that marrying Ruth would jeopardize his own inheritance.....WHY?



HOW TO CARRY OUT GOD'S JUSTICE







THE POUR

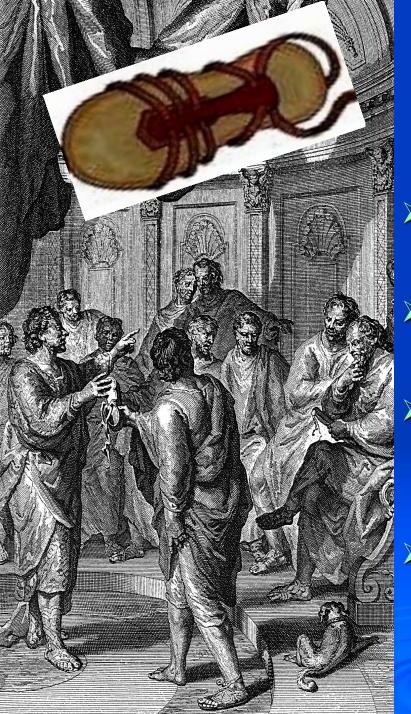
"You shall love YHWH will all your mind, soul, and strength.....
Love you neighbor as yourself.."

THE SOLUTION

B

A MAJOR PROBLEM

- ▶ If Mr. So and So married Ruth his own inheritance was compromised
- His hope was to buy (redeem) the land and add it to his own wealth
- Since Elimelech had no heir, the go'el could buy and KEEP the land legally (a good investment!)
- BUT.....if he had to marry Ruth, it would be to produce an heir for Elimelech's family
- THUS.....he would in turn have to GIVE the land he purchased to Ruth's son (Elimelech's heir) and effectively LOSE his "investment"



THE DEAL IS SEALED WITH A SANDAL

- The senior go'el gives up his rights to Boaz
- The 10 elders attest and notarize the agreement
- A blessing is offered that Ruth do as "Leah and Rachel" did for Jacob
- Leah and Rachel were gentiles, as was Ruth

A SON IS BORN TO RUTH

- The women of Beit-Lechem see Ruth's son as Na'omi's son!
- These same village women NAME the child
- The community sensed that the birth of the son to Ruth had a far reaching effect on all of them
- Vs 14: "Redeemer" more accurately says "redemption"
- Go'el = noun, redeemer (a person)
- Ga'al = verb, to redeem (an action)



OVED: "THE SERVING ONE"



- Ben = son, grandson
- Oved legally replaced Machlon
- Oved also (by a legal fiction) became Elimelech's son
- King David's line is traced back to Peretz
- Messianic line begins with a gentile woman (Tamar), and takes a drastic turn with another gentile, Ruth
- Bethlehem is home to Oved, King David, and Yeshua