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## A Biographical Study of Boaz

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# ***Boaz***

## **CHRONOLOGICAL SYMMARY**

- I. His meetings with Ruth
  - A. First meeting: In a wheat field
    1. Boaz was a close relative of the widow Naomi on her husband Elimelech's side (Ruth 2:1).
    2. He was a wealthy bachelor from the tribe of Judah (Ruth 2:1).
    3. He met Ruth in a field owned by him near Bethlehem (Ruth 2:4-8).
    4. He commended her for the kindly treatment she showed toward her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:5-13).
    5. He instructed his harvesters to make it easier for her to glean the grain in his field (Ruth 2:15-16).
    6. He provided this service for Ruth during the entire harvest season (Ruth 2:23).
  - B. Second meeting: By a threshing floor
    1. Acting upon Naomi's instructions, Ruth proposed marriage to Boaz (Ruth 3:1-11).
    2. Boaz was more than willing, but told Ruth that permission had to be secured from a relative who was even closer to Elimelech than he was (Ruth 3:12—4:6).
- II. His marriage to Ruth
  - A. After Boaz received this permission, the marriage contract was ratified by the exchanging of shoes (Ruth 4:7-12).
  - B. Boaz fathered a boy through Ruth named Obed (Ruth 4:13-17).
  - C. He thus became the great-grandfather of King David (Ruth 4:18-22).

## **STATISTICS**

*Father:* Salmon (Ruth 4:21)

*Mother:* Rahab (Matt. 1:5)

*Spouse:* Ruth (Ruth 4:13)

*Son:* Obed (Ruth 4:13, 17)

*Significant ancestor:* Abraham (Matt. 1:2, 5)

*Significant descendants:* David, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus (Ruth 4:22; Matt. 1:16)

*First mention:* Ruth 2:1

*Final mention:* Luke 3:32

*Meaning of his name:* "Fleetness, strength"

*Frequency of his name:* Referred to 23 times

*Biblical books mentioning him:* Four books (Ruth, 1 Chronicles, Matthew, Luke)

*Occupation:* Wealthy farmer (Ruth 2:1, 3)

*Place of birth:* Probably Bethlehem

*Important fact about his life:* He married Ruth and became an ancestor of Jesus through David's line (Ruth 4:13, 21-22; Matt. 1:5-16)