

Sunday School Live Lesson

December 1, 2024

Jesus' Ancestry

Ruth 4:9-17; Luke 3:23, 31b-32 +

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Instructor: Ralph Gordon

Sunday School Lesson

Question for Us Today

December 1, 2024

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How familiar are you with the earthly ancestry of Jesus?

Sunday School Lesson

Objectives

December 1, 2024

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To understand how a non-Jew, Ruth (a Moabitess), became an earthly ancestor of Jesus, the Messiah.

To understand the Providence of God.

Sunday School Lesson Segments – 1

December 1, 2024

1. Bibliography

2. Points of Information: Ruth, Boaz, Luke

Sunday School Lesson Segments - 2

December 1, 2024

3. Lesson Context

4. Lesson Text

5. Remember These Things

Points of Information – Ruth

The author of the Book of Ruth is unknown. Some say it might have been Samuel.

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Ruth was a Moabite: One who was a descendant of Moab and lived in the so-named land.

Points of Information – Ruth

Ruth had been married to Mahlon, the elder son of Elimelech and Naomi.

Mahlon died after 10 years of a childless marriage to Ruth.

Points of Information – Boaz

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Boaz was a wealthy landowner and farmer.

Boaz was a man of noble integrity and keen insight.

Points of Information – Luke

Luke was a Gentile, not a Jew. He was a medical doctor, whom the Apostle Paul referred to as “the beloved physician.”

Colossians 4:14. Luke was not one of the Twelve Disciples.

Luke was a co-traveler, dear friend and ministry colleague of the Apostle Paul.

Points of Information – Luke

The Gospel according to Luke is one of the three Synoptic Gospels – along with Matthew and Mark. These Books closely match one another in content and sequence. Yet, large segments of the Lukan Gospel are unique.

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Luke also wrote the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. He wrote prominently about a number of women.

Jesus' Ancestry

Lesson Context

The story of Ruth occurred during the sinful times of the judges in Israel.
Ruth 1:1.

Yet, this story illustrates how truly faithful people can and will do the right thing no matter the timeframe.

Jesus' Ancestry

Lesson Context

Elimelech had taken his family out of their homeland (Bethlehem-Judah) and relocated all of them to Moab to escape a famine.

Jesus' Ancestry

Lesson Context

In the earlier verses of the first Chapter of Ruth, we find that a woman – Naomi – had been widowed by the death of her husband, Elimelech.

Subsequently, Naomi's two sons (Mahlon and Kilion) died, leaving two more widows, Orpah and Ruth.

Jesus' Ancestry

Lesson Context

After the death of Naomi's sons and then with her planned return to Bethlehem, Ruth clung to her and God.

While devotedly working to support Naomi, Ruth met an older man: Boaz.

Jesus' Ancestry

Lesson Context

Following the coaching of Naomi, Ruth found further favor with Boaz, married him and bore a son who was named Obed.

None of this was simply the result of human coincidence. It was all due to divine providence.

Ruth 4:9 [NIV]

Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, “Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimilek, Kilion and Mahlon.

Ruth 4:10

I have also acquired Ruth the Moabite Mahlon's widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from his hometown. Today you are witnesses!”

Ruth 4:11

Then the elders and all the people at the gate said, “We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the family of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem.

Ruth 4:12

Through the offspring the LORD gives by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah.”

Ruth 4:13

So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife. When he made love to her, the Lord enabled her to conceive, and she gave birth to a son.

Ruth 4:14

The women said to Naomi: “Praise be to the LORD, Who this day has not left you without a guardian-redeemer. May he become famous throughout Israel!”

Ruth 4:15

He will renew your life and sustain you in your old age. For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and who is better to you than seven sons, has given him birth.”

Ruth 4:16

Then Naomi took the child in her arms
and cared for him.

Ruth 4:17

The women living there said, “Naomi has a son!” And they named him Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.

Ruth 4:18-22

Note: A brief genealogy follows, from Perez to David.

Luke 3:23

Now Jesus Himself was about thirty years of old when He began His ministry. He was the Son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli,

Luke 3:31b

... the son of Nathan, the son of David,

Luke 3:32

... the son of Jesse, the son of Obed,
the son of Boaz, the son of Salmon, the
son of Nahshon,

Matthew 1:4c

Nashon, the father of Salmon,

Matthew 1:5

Salmon, the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse,

Matthew 1:6

... and Jesse the father of King David.

Remember these things:

God chooses whom He uses.

If we follow the directions of God, led by the Holy Spirit while believing in His Son (Jesus), great things can happen.

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Next Sunday School Live Lesson

December 8, 2024

God's Promise

2 Samuel 7:4-17

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