

“Do You Matter?”

Ruth 4:1-12

July 26, 2020

I. The Kind of People Who Do *Not* Matter (4:1-8)

- A. Verse 1 does not say “friend”.
 - 1. The Hebrew expression used is extremely indefinite and impersonal.
 - 2. It’s closest to our English expression “so-and-so”.
 - 3. The writer is clearly casting the close relative in a negative light.
- B. At first, Mr. So-and-So seems willing to acquire the field from/for Naomi.
 - 1. But then, when it’s revealed that doing so could potentially jeopardize his own resources; he refuses to do his duty.
 - 2. Mr. So-and-So was only out for himself; thus, not even his name would endure.

II. The Kind of People Who *Do* Matter (4:9-12)

- A. Boaz was willing to selflessly bear the risk of acquiring the field from/for Naomi and marrying Ruth.
- B. As the city elders prayed would be the case, selfless Boaz’ name has endured; and his deeds have mattered.

Ruth 4:17b - ... *And they called his name Obed. He was the father of Jesse, the father of David.*

- C. Jesus, the descendant of David (and Boaz!), lived the most significant human existence of all.
 - 1. His selfless death for our sins has rescued us from an eternity of meaninglessness.
 - 2. He offers us the chance to truly matter by blessing Him in our service to His people (Matt. 25:40).