

RUTH, CHAPTERS 3 & 4 – “RUTH’S REDEMPTION ASSURED; BOAZ REDEEMS RUTH; DESCENDANTS OF BOAZ AND RUTH!”

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

RUTH’S REDEMPTION ASSURED!; VS. 1-18

Rth 3:1 Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, shall I not seek security for you, that it may be well with you?"

Rth 3:2 Now Boaz, whose young women you were with, is he not our relative? In fact, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor.

Rth 3:3 Therefore wash yourself and anoint yourself, put on your best garment and go down to the threshing floor; but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.

Rth 3:4 Then it shall be, when he lies down, that you shall notice the place where he lies; and you shall go in, uncover his feet, and lie down; and he will tell you what you should do."

Rth 3:5 And she said to her, "All that you say to me I will do."

Rth 3:6 So she went down to the threshing floor and did according to all that her mother-in-law instructed her.

Rth 3:7 And after Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was cheerful, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain; and she came softly, uncovered his feet, and lay down.

Rth 3:8 Now it happened at midnight that the man was startled, and turned himself; and there, a woman was lying at his feet.

Rth 3:9 And he said, "Who are you?" So she answered, "I am Ruth, your maidservant. Take your maidservant under your wing, for you are a close relative."

Rth 3:10 Then he said, "Blessed are you of the LORD, my daughter! For you have shown more kindness at the end than at the beginning, in that you did not go after young men, whether poor or rich.

Rth 3:11 And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you request, for all the people of my town know that you are a virtuous woman.

v. 1 The harvest season is coming to an end. Naomi notices that Ruth is very modest and is not making any claim upon Boaz at all. Also that he is in love with her. And so Naomi asks Ruth if she should seek rest for her. And the rest, of course, is marriage. "Shall I seek a marriage for you?" So now she says she will seek rest for Ruth.

v. 2 Boaz is your kinsman-redeemer. You have a right to claim him. In fact, Ruth, you must claim him as your kinsman-redeemer. I want you to go up to the threshing floor tonight and let him know."

v. 3 **Wash** –picture of washed by the water of the word in Eph. 5; **anoint** – picture of the work of the Holy Spirit; **garment** – Your best dress. Cf. Is. 61 The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;.

v. 4 **Uncover his feet** - Remove the clothes that were upon his feet; thereby to awaken him. **Will tell you** - What course you shall take to obtain that marriage which belongs to you.

v. 5 I will observe every instruction and direction attend strictly to every circumstance pointed out to me.

v. 6 **went down** - From the city of Bethlehem to the threshing floor of Boaz. **And did according** -she washed and anointed herself, and put on her best clothes before she went down, taking care not to make herself known to any, especially to Boaz, and marked the place where he lay down after eating.

v. 7 Boaz got cold—the cloak had been pulled off him. He sat up, reached down, and felt around down there, and lo, a woman was there. Eve sought to be at Adam’s head, and she fell. Ruth sought to be at Boaz’s feet, and she’s about to be redeemed.

vs. 8-9 And it came to pass at midnight, that the man was startled and turned himself: and, behold, a woman lay at his feet. (9) And he said, Who are you? And she answered, I am Ruth your maidservant: Take your maidservant under your wing; for you are a near kinsman. There is nothing immodest or immoral about this. By her actions, Ruth was declaring to Boaz that she desired him to be a spiritual covering for her.

v. 10 Boaz immediately wants to claim her as his wife, because that's what he's been waiting to hear. This man really goes into action now because the way is clear and he is free to move; **she has claimed him**.

v. 11 **and I will do for you all that you request**; which could be done according to the law of God, and without injury to another person after mentioned: Ruth knew she **was a Gentile, and a stranger**. Boaz, however, **saw her as a virtuous woman**. One translator renders his statement, “You are a bride worth winning.” This is honestly the Lord’s heart toward us. We think He’s stuck with us, when **in actuality He’s in love with us because He sees us as a bride worth winning**.

BOAZ & RUTH – One of the great love stories in the Bible. It’s powerful and import! An interracial marriage that God used marvelously. A story of the **genealogy of Jesus** and how that He would **born in Bethlehem**. (*Micah 5:2*) and to have **descended from Judah**. Also shown is an important phase in the doctrine of **redemption**. Redemption is **possible only through a Kinsman-Redeemer** Boaz furnishes the only figure for the Kinsman-Redeemer aspect of redemption, which is **essential** for the proper understanding of the **Atonement**. The main character, of course, is Ruth. Her name means “**Friendship**,” and she is the great-grandmother of King David. Ruth is a picture or a representative of us—the Bride of Christ. The hero of this drama is **Boaz, who is a picture or type of our Hero, our Kinsman Redeemer, our Goel—Jesus Christ**. The **three themes** of the Book of Ruth are: **Redemption, revival, and restoration**. This powerful little love story shows us clearly how the Lord can breathe life into a situation that appears lifeless. Our **Lord is a Restorer**; He is a **Rebuilder**; He is a **Reviver**—and the Book of Ruth ministers the message of hope to any who feel wiped-out, hurting, or hopeless.

Oaths & vows were frequently made in the Old Testament – *Chap. 1:17b The LORD do so to me, and more also, If anything but death parts you and me.* Cf. *2Sa 3:35* (King David-Abner’s death); *2Sa 19:13* (David- Amasa, Absalom’s death); *1Ki 2:23* (King Solomon swore – Adonijah); *1Ki 20:10* (Ben-Hadad to King Ahab; *2Ki 6:31* (King of Israel re Elisha).

Often this saying followed the vow, indicating that if the vow is not kept then for the **greatest evil upon himself that could be thought of or named**, to occur.

Jesus said, Mat 5:33-37 "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.' [34] But I say to you, **do not swear at all**: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; [35] nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. [36] Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. [37] But **let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.'** For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

Jas 5:12 But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath. But let your "Yes" be "Yes," and your "No," "No," lest you fall into judgment.

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Rth 3:12 Now it is true that I am a close relative; however, there is a relative closer than I.
Rth 3:13 Stay this night, and in the morning it shall be that if he will perform the duty of a close relative for you—good; let him do it. But if he does not want to perform the duty for you, then I will perform the duty for you, as the LORD lives! Lie down until morning."
Rth 3:14 So she lay at his feet until morning, and she arose before one could recognize another. Then he said, "Do not let it be known that the woman came to the threshing floor."
Rth 3:15 Also he said, "Bring the shawl that is on you and hold it." And when she held it, he measured six ephahs of barley, and laid it on her. Then she went into the city.
Rth 3:16 When she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "Is that you, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her.
Rth 3:17 And she said, "These six ephahs of barley he gave me; for he said to me, 'Do not go empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'"
Rth 3:18 Then she said, "Sit still, my daughter, until you know how the matter will turn out; for the man will not rest until he has concluded the matter this day."

BOAZ REDEEMS RUTH; vs. 1-12

Rth 4:1 Now Boaz went up to the gate and sat down there; and behold, the close relative of whom Boaz had spoken came by. So Boaz said, "Come aside, friend, sit down here." So he came aside and sat down.
Rth 4:2 And he took ten men of the elders of the city, and said, "Sit down here." So they sat down.
Rth 4:3 Then he said to the close relative, "Naomi, who has come back from the country of Moab, sold the piece of land which belonged to our brother Elimelech.

Rth 4:4 And I thought to inform you, saying, 'Buy it back in the presence of the inhabitants and the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, redeem it; but if you will not redeem it, then tell me, that I may know; for there is no one but you to redeem it, and I am next after you.'" And he said, "I will redeem it."
Rth 4:5 Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the field from the hand of Naomi, you must also buy it from Ruth the Moabitess, the wife of the dead, to perpetuate the name of the dead through his inheritance."

Rth 4:6 And the close relative said, "I cannot redeem it for myself, lest I ruin my own inheritance. You redeem my right of redemption for yourself; for I cannot redeem it."

v. 12 *Now it is true that I am a close relative;* . Her husband and he being brothers' sons, so cousins: *however, there is a relative closer than I.* who was, the Jews say, the brother of her husband's father, and so his uncle, which was a nearer relation than an own cousin.
v. 13 *Perform the duty* – Boaz gives time to let the Lord work! Take you as wife, to raise up seed to his brother. Great concern for her being a virtuous woman. It is true that Jesus is my Kinsman, my near Kinsman—that He, God Himself, became flesh, became like me, and was tempted in all points like I am. **Hebrews 2** teaches the incredible concept of the Incarnation—how Jesus is a High Priest who relates to you and me because He became just like us.
v. 14 *Do not let it be known* - He takes care to preserve not only his conscience towards God, but his reputation, and hers also, among men.
v. 15 He makes her a very generous gift.
v. 16 *Is that you, my daughter?"* Are you Mrs. Boaz or not?"
v. 17 Ruth can just sit down there in the rocking chair and wait. From here on Boaz will be the man of action. He will take care of this case. You can rest in him. The work of redemption is going to be his work.
v. 18 *sit still, my daughter.* Keep at home, say nothing of this affair to any person, be easy about it, take no other steps in it, wait the issue of it: *how the matter will turn out*; not that she thought it was a chance matter, **for the man will not be at rest until he have finished the thing.**
v. 1 *"Boaz went up to the gate."* The gate served as the courthouse, where court convened.
v. 2 These ten men were elders, we're told, and they were the ones who constituted the judges. This is the courthouse, and court's in session.
v. 3 *Naomi* - Both Naomi and Ruth had an interest in this land during their lives, but he mentions only Naomi, because all was done by her direction; lest the mention of Ruth should raise a suspicion of the necessity of his marrying Ruth, before he had given his answer to the first proposition.
v. 4 Boaz gives this man the priority that belongs to him. Does this man want to be the redeemer? Will he redeem this property in order that it might be given to Naomi before the Year of Jubilee? He says, "I will redeem it." When this man agreed to redeem the property, Boaz's heart must have sunk. But he would not give up. He was ready now to reveal his hand.
v. 5 *You must also but it from Ruth* - More properly, You also will acquire Ruth. You cannot get the land without taking the wife of the deceased and then the children which you may have shall be the children of Mahlon, thy deceased kinsman.
v. 6 And the kinsman said, On this ground I cannot redeem it, because I have a wife already; and I have no desire to take another, lest there should be contention in my house, and I should become a corrupter of my inheritance.

v. 6 Threshing floor- speaks of **separation** and **sacrifice**:

- In **2 Samuel**, we read how David purchased the threshing floor of Ornan. After plague had swept the country for three days and thousands had died, David approached Ornan and said, "I want to buy this spot to build a place of sacrifice to Jehovah."
- Ornan offered to give it to David, but David replied, "I will not give to the Lord of that which costs me nothing" (**2 Samuel 24:24**) and he paid full price.
- It was at the threshing floor, where Gideon hid from the Midianites, that God commissioned him for service (**Judges 6**).
- Jesus used the analogy of the threshing floor when He told Peter that Satan sought to sift him like wheat on the eve of His betrayal (**Luke 22:31**).
- The threshing floor speaks of sacrifice. Have you come to the place where you are not simply in the field gleaning for yourself, but at the threshing floor giving of yourself? See the place where He lay. Go to the tomb and see what Christ has done for you.
- "I beseech you therefore brethren," wrote Paul, "by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto Him, which is your reasonable service" (**Romans 12:1**). When we see the place where He lay, it becomes very reasonable to go to the threshing floor and offer ourselves to Him—just as Ruth did.

Perhaps you're in a "threshing floor" season, where you feel up in the air, separated, and blown away. Whenever you come to a time like this, you have the opportunity.

v. 9. Redeemer is a word that indicates a **continual work of redemption**. When the Lord says, "I'm a Redeemer," it means **He's continually redeeming**—not only in relation to your salvation ten years ago. **He remains continually and constantly willing to cloak you, to redeem you, to claim you no matter where you've been, no matter how far Moab has drawn you.**

3:10 *"You have showed more kindness in the latter end than at the beginning."* This is what our Greater than Boaz says to you. "When you came into My field, that was a blessing. When you showed up at church, when you had morning devotions, when you came into the field to glean the wheat of My Word—you blessed Me. I know you could have gone water skiing. I know you could have stayed home. I know you could have slept in—but you came into My field and you blessed Me. And now you're

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INTERPRETATION

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Rth 4:7 Now this was the custom in former times in Israel concerning redeeming and exchanging, to confirm anything: one man took off his sandal and gave it to the other, and this was a confirmation in Israel.

Rth 4:8 Therefore the close relative said to Boaz, "Buy it for yourself." So he took off his sandal.

Rth 4:9 And Boaz said to the elders and all the people, "You are witnesses this day that I have bought all that was Elimelech's, and all that was Chilion's and Mahlon's, from the hand of Naomi.

Rth 4:10 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."

Rth 4:11 And all the people who were at the gate, and the elders, said, "We are witnesses. The LORD make the woman who is coming to your house like Rachel and Leah, the two who built the house of Israel; and may you prosper in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem.

Rth 4:12 May your house be like the house of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, because of the offspring which the LORD will give you from this young woman."

DESCENDANTS OF BOAZ AND RUTH – vs. 13-22

Rth 4:13 So Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife; and when he went in to her, the LORD gave her conception, and she bore a son

Rth 4:14 Then the women said to Naomi, "Blessed be the LORD, who has not left you this day without a close relative; and may his name be famous in Israel!"

Rth 4:15 And may he be to you a restorer of life and a nourisher of your old age; for your daughter-in-law, who loves you, who is better to you than seven sons, has borne him."

Rth 4:16 Then Naomi took the child and laid him on her bosom, and became a nurse to him.

Rth 4:17 Also the neighbor women gave him a name, saying, "There is a son born to Naomi." And they called his name Obed. He is the father of Jesse, the father of David.

v. 7 Showing that the custom was obsolete in the writer's days. The letter of the law was not strictly followed. It was thought sufficient for the man to pull off his own shoe and give it to the man to whom he ceded his right, in the presence of the elders of his city.

vs. 8-10 Boaz depicts the Lord Jesus Christ, our Kinsman-Redeemer, it is very important to see that He has acted in our behalf. Now Boaz calls the people to witness the fact that he not only has redeemed the property, as well as Ruth, the widow of Mahlon, **Deu 25:9** *then his brother's wife shall come to him in the presence of the elders, remove his sandal from his foot, spit in his face, and answer and say, 'So shall it be done to the man who will not build up his brother's house.'* **Boaz buys the field to get the bride!**

v. 11 These people of Bethlehem are rejoicing in this because this girl, though a foreigner, an outsider, has made a wonderful name for herself in Bethlehem. It was obvious that she, as a Moabite, had made a tremendous sacrifice to trust God as her Savior. And she didn't spend her time running around chasing every man in the community, of which Boaz was well aware. *We are witnesses* – the “contract” has been signed!

vs. 12-14 The women said this to Naomi because a kinsman was needed to carry on the line of Elimelech. Now it will be carried on through Boaz. We have a Kinsman today, and that's the most wonderful news we can have. Look today at this poor, sin-stained world. It is puzzled, not knowing where to turn. People need a Kinsman. It's tragic to see people celebrate Christmas or Easter or anything that relates to Christ without knowing He is their Kinsman and without having received Him as their Kinsman-Redeemer.

v. 15 *your old age* - That is, of the comfort of your life. *Bore a son* - born to him; that is, to your kinsman a son. *Better than seven sons* - See how God sometimes makes up the want of those relations from whom we expected most comfort, in those from whom we expected least! The bonds of love prove stronger than those of nature.

v. 16 This child is Naomi's grandson. And how precious he is to her. A close relationship with her grandson!

v. 17 Naomi's neighbors, seeing her great love for the child, named him Obed (worshiper), meaning "servant" or "worshiper." Although he was of no blood kin to Naomi, he was legally her grandson. Undoubtedly, he became a little servant to Naomi in her old age and took the place left vacant by the death of her husband and two sons. Her estate, of course, would go to this son of Boaz and Ruth.

He is a worshiper of the living and the true God. Now we're given Obed's genealogy. Obed is the father of Jesse. And who is Jesse? He is the father of David.

blessing Me even more by wanting Me to cover you, to redeem you, to rescue you.

It's not an obligation to Me—it's an elation for Me. You could have sought some young man, some new fad, some exciting trip—but you sought Me, the Ancient of Days. You put aside other alluring pursuits and you sought Me to cover you. You've blessed Me."

Boaz had strength and wealth, pedigree and prosperity. He had everything—except one upon which to pour out his love. Jesus Christ is the Creator of all things. He, too, has it all. But what He desires is a Bride. And guess what we are! Anyone who will fall before His nail-pierced feet and say, "*Cover me*"—He will in no wise cast out (**John 6:37**).

4:6 - It is **only when you stop trying to earn your salvation** and merit brownie points with God in your Christian walk **that you are free**. Once you realize your rules and regulations—joining the right clubs, working on the right committees, and being nice to your dog and cat—will not redeem you, you look to your Greater than Boaz. You look to Jesus Christ. You see, **it's not what we're doing that counts—it's what He has done that matters**.

4:8 Today, if you have **not acknowledged Jesus as your Redeemer**, you, too, have taken off His shoe. You have spat in the face of the One who died for you and wants to live inside you. **Your rejection of Him is the greatest insult that could ever take place. It's called the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit, and it is the one sin which is eternally unforgivable (Matthew 12:31).**

4:9-10 - Boaz stepped up and said, "Since the nearer kinsman cannot redeem, I will!" And that is exactly what our Greater than Boaz says concerning us.

Jesus alone has the right to redemption. Rules and regulations do not, will not, and cannot.

Jesus alone has the resource for redemption. He purchased us with the richness of the blood that flowed through His veins and onto the ground at Calvary.

Jesus alone has a reason for redemption. It is His grace, his undeserved, unmerited, unearned favor which brings us into His family.

Finally, **Jesus alone gives us rest in redemption.** Like Boaz, He says, "Glean not in another man's field. Stay in the field of My redemption and you will find the ultimate satisfaction."

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*Rth 4:18 Now this is the genealogy of Perez: Perez begot Hezron;
Rth 4:19 Hezron begot Ram, and Ram begot Amminadab;
Rth 4:20 Amminadab begot Nahshon, and Nahshon begot Salmon;
Rth 4:21 Salmon begot Boaz, and Boaz begot Obed;
Rth 4:22 Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David.*

SINCE JESUS CAME INTO MY HEART – Rufus McDaniel

*What a wonderful change in my life has been wrought,
since Jesus came into my heart.
I have light in my soul for which long I had sought,
since Jesus came into my heart.*

*Refrain:
Since Jesus came into my heart,
since Jesus came into my heart.
Floods of joy o'er my soul,
like the sea billows roll,
since Jesus came into my heart.*

*I shall go there to dwell in that city, I know,
since Jesus came into my heart.
And I'm happy, so happy, as onward I go,
since Jesus came into my heart.*

*Refrain
Since Jesus came into my heart,
since Jesus came into my heart.
Floods of joy o'er my soul,
like the sea billows roll,
since Jesus came into my heart. (2X)*

v.18 It is probable that there was a family book for the house of Perez, in which their genealogies were preserved, and important bits of history were recorded; and that the Book of Ruth was compiled from it.
v. 19 And Hezron begot Ram, Called Aram by the Septuagint. **and Ram begot Amminadab**; in whose name there is no variation, neither in the book of Chronicles nor in the Evangelists; both these, as well as the next, were born in Egypt.
v. 20 Amminadab begot Nahshon,.... The prince of the tribe of Judah. In the wilderness at the time of the dedication of the altar, Num 7:12 called Nahshon. And Nahshon begot Salmon.
v. 21 And Salmon begot Boaz,.... Of Rahab the harlot, whom he married, the very same person that makes a principal part of this book. **and Boaz begot Obed**; of Ruth; of whom see the preceding verses.
v. 22 And Obed begot Jesse,.... The Bethlehemite, the father of David: and Jesse begot David; here being but four generations mentioned, from the coming of the Israelites into Canaan, to the birth of David. One thousand years later, Jesus Christ was born in this same city, Bethlehem in this and through this lineage.

Summary: -

This is a beautiful story of redemption, the story of Ruth. It gives you a, a picture, **a classic picture of what redemption is all about. The redeeming of the field to get the bride**, who Boaz loved. Even as the kingdom of God is like a treasure hid in a field, who, when a man discovers it, **for the joy thereof. Goes out and sells everything he has, so that he can buy the field, and obtain the treasure. (Mat 13:44)** So Jesus gave all He had, His life, to purchase this world, that He could take you, His church, His treasure out of it, to be His own.

Lessons from the Book of Ruth:

1. **Life can be difficult.** The Bible tells us that because of this fallen world, life can be difficult! **But God does promise to work all things together for good. (Rom. 8:28)** That's a promise He will always keep that promise! This book is a testimony to that.
2. **A God honoring, joyful life can be lived even in the darkest of times.** Boaz walks with the Lord in the midst of one of the darkest times in Israel's history.
3. **Lives of simple obedience to God are making a difference** in human history – maybe not in our generation, but maybe generations down the road.
4. Single greatest lesson – is **redemption!** Words directly related to redemption are used 20 times in this book of only 85 verses! – **redeemed** – It means to buy or set free upon the payment of a ransom. We have a beautiful picture of Jesus as our kinsman-redeemer, in Boaz Ruth can be seen as representing the church. In this Book just as Boaz was able to redeem a field and one individual, Ruth, Jesus makes a bride of the whole world!

Four Requirements of the Kinsman-Redeemer:

1 He had to **be a near kinsman, related by blood.** A blood relative. Boaz was able to redeem because he was a blood relative Jesus was able to redeem this world. He made Himself a relative to us by blood – He became a man –born into the word. *Gal. 4.3-5 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. [4] But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, [5] to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

2 He **had to be free Himself** – Boaz was not in debt himself. Similarly Jesus, in His wealth, was greater than man. Free from the curse or debt of sin! *2 Cor 5:21 For He made Him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.* Jesus could not be a sinner and save sinners!

3 He **had to perform work of redemption willingly!** The nearest kinsman was not willing to redeem, but Boaz was willing to redeem at any price. Jesus said too, *Joh 10:18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."* I have the lay it down...greater love has no man than this... *Joh 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.*

4 He **had to have the price of redemption.** Wealth greater than the redeeming price. Jesus had that. Peter said, *1Pe 1:18 knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, [19] but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*