

Ruth 4:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed,

Analysis

Genealogy continues: '**And Salmon begat Boaz, and Boaz begat Obed**'. This verse formally includes Boaz and his son Obed in the genealogical record, cementing Ruth's integration and Obed's legitimacy. The economy of expression —'begat'—emphasizes the biological and legal continuity across generations. Boaz, son of Rahab the Canaanite, married Ruth the Moabitess, showing his family's pattern of receiving faithful Gentiles.

Historical Context

The inclusion of Boaz, whose mother was Canaanite convert Rahab, highlights God's repeated incorporation of Gentile women into Israel's most important family line. This wasn't accident or coincidence but divine pattern demonstrating that covenant inclusion comes through faith, not ethnicity. Archaeological and historical evidence suggests significant intermarriage between Israelites and Canaanites during judges period, though Scripture condemns marriages lacking proper conversion. Rahab and Ruth represent proper conversions—genuine faith producing full covenant commitment.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does Boaz's heritage as son of a Gentile convert inform his reception of Ruth?
2. What does this multi-generational pattern teach about God's consistent grace toward Gentiles who believe?

Interlinear Text

וְיָצַד: אָתָּה הַוָּלִיד And Salmon	בָּגַת begat	H853	בָּוָאֶז Boaz	H1162	בָּוָאֶז Boaz	H1162	בָּגַת begat	H853	וְיָצַד: אָתָּה הַוָּלִיד Obed
H8012	H3205						H3205		H5744

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 1:5 (Parallel theme): And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;

Luke 3:32 (Parallel theme): Which was the son of Jesse, which was the son of Obed, which was the son of Booz, which was the son of Salmon, which was the son of Naasson,