

1 Samuel 25

Nabal and Abigail

1. 25:1 - Samuel Dies

- a. Samuel dies with the respect of all the nation, right after Saul acknowledges David.
- b. *"all gathered... lamented... buried"* – An example of a Biblical funeral.
- c. The acts of David were written by Samuel, Nathan, and Gad - 1 Chron 29:29
- d. *"wilderness of Paran"* – South of Judah (Hagar/Ishamel, Caleb's spies, Elijah)

2. 25:2-13 – Evil Nabal was a man of great possessions; Abigail a beautiful wise woman.

- a. 2-3 - But Nabal was "churlish and evil" (cruel, rude) ← no understanding Pr 18:2,7
- b. 4-7 - David's men helped protect Nabal's shepherds/sheep in the wilderness.
 - i. Christ sent his chosen young men out to do good work – Matt 10:5-10
- c. 4-9 - David sends 10 young men in his name with a message of peace to find favor.
 - i. Christ sends his disciples in peace seeking favor – Matt 10:11-15, 32-34, 40-42
- d. 10-11 - Nabal denies David and accuses them of being dishonest rebels. Mt 10:24-28
 - i. Saul acknowledged David, Nabal refuses to hear - Mt 19:20-24, Acts 7:51-54
 - ii. Nabal recognizes Saul (murderer, seditious) but accuses David – Lk 23:18-25
- e. 12-13 – God's anointed arms 400 men to administer justice to this evil Israelite. But...

3. 25:14-24 – Abigail Intercedes

- a. 14-16 – A young man tells Abigail, that what David's disciples said were true.
- b. 17 - Nabal is *"such a son of Belial"* wicked, ungodly, evil – 1 Sam 1:16, 2:12, 10:27
- c. 18-20 - Abigail prepares and sends payment for David and his men's protection.
- d. 21-22 - David regrets protecting this wicked ruler's sheep, is willing to judge all.
- e. 23-24 - *"Upon me let this iniquity be"* - Who is Abigail again? "the Father's joy"
 - i. The Father's good pleasure to give the kingdom to ... Luke 12:32-40, 51-53
 - ii. *"... hear the words of thine handmaid."* – Do you remember? 1 Sam 2:5-8

4. 25:25-31 – Pleading for Mercy

- a. 25 - *"regard this man of Belial"* – Worthless, his name means 'fool' (Ps 14:1, 53:1)
- b. 26-28 - *"coming to shed blood..."* – David did not fight Israel/Saul.
 - i. *"thine enemies ... be as Nabal"* – the LORD is with David, not with Saul.
 - ii. Interpretation – *"forgive them; for they know not what they do"* Lk 23:34
- c. 29-30 – She knows God's promise to David, the prophecies, his kingdom come.
 - i. Peter explains the situation - Acts 3:13-14, 17-21, 23-24
- d. 31 – Whatever David does, when the LORD does him well, she asks for his favor.
- e. This woman understands the will of the LORD, sin, forgiveness, atonement, grace.
- f. David's fight is not against his people Israel, but for them – Lk 23:42, Rom 11:28-29
- g. David had resisted every temptation to seek justice at his hand, until this fool.

5. 25:32-38 – A Remnant, Peace, and the LORD's Judgment

- a. 32 - Abigail sent of the LORD. How? She had understanding and used it for good.

- b. 32 – David blesses the Father, Father’s joy, and his intercessory words. Jn 3:16-17
- c. 33 - *“kept me this day ...”* – The anointed did not come to judge at this time – Heb 9:28
- d. 34 - *“except thou... surely there had not been left”* – This describes the remnant. Isa 1:9
- e. 35-36 – Abigail finds peace, Nabal feasts like a king, but his days are numbered.
- f. 37-38 - Nabal’s heart died and became a stone, and died – Deu 28:28
- g. Nabal was the wealthy, wicked, blind, foolish, Israel who is cursed by God.
- h. Abigail is understanding, beautiful, remnant of Israel waiting for her king/kingdom

6. 25:39-44 – David’s Wives

- a. 39 - David praises God for keeping him from evil, his kingdom will come - Matt 6:13
- b. 40-42 – This chapter not about romance, but the LORD protecting his own from evil.
 - i. It tells the story of a foolish man and a faithful woman – Matt 7:24, Lk 12:16
 - ii. Abigail (who trusted in David) becomes married to him (gets a kingdom)
 - iii. Nabal is cut off from his wealth and house forever (doesn’t get a kingdom)
 - iv. 1 Sam 25 also will contrast Nabal with Uriah and Abigail with Bath-sheba
- c. 43 – History selected by God to teach - *“Ahinoam”* – Meaning “brother of grace”
- d. 44 – Michal, David’s first wife, had been given away by Saul – useful later in 2 Sam.
- e. Nabal = Israel plays the fool, unbelief, wicked, Saul, ends in death, loss of kingdom.
- f. Abigail = Remnant who humbles, pray, ask forgiveness, turn from Nabal = peace.
- g. 2 Chron 7:14 spoken by a son of David in the house of Abigail.