

6—Nabal and Abigail’s View of David: A Contrasting View

1 Samuel 25

Have you ever wondered how two people can view the same thing and have such varying perspectives? One person praises the President, another cannot wait to vote him out of office. One person longs for the cold of winter, another person loathes it. One person admires a certain athlete, while another one bashes him. One person loves God, another blasphemes God. People can be so very, very different.



“Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant. For the Lord will certainly make for my lord an enduring house, because my lord fights the battles of the Lord, and evil is not found in you throughout your days.”

1 Samuel 25:28 (NKJV)



down to “faith.”

Now, consider the marriage of Nabal and his wife, Abigail, in 1 Samuel 25. At this point, David is still hiding from jealous Saul awaiting his divinely-appointed moment (cp. 1 Samuel 25:26). David has a formidable army of young men alongside him (1 Samuel 25:13). While in the wilderness, they have been very careful not to take advantage of the landowners around them. In fact, they have protected the property of those landowners (1 Samuel 25:7-8, 14-16). One of those landowners was Nabal, a very rich man (1 Samuel 25:2). David asks of Nabal a simple offering so they may keep a religious “feast” (1 Samuel 25:8). Yet, Nabal and Abigail react very, very differently to this request. Nabal is stingy, while Abigail is generous. Nabal views David as a rogue servant. Abigail views David as God’s appointed ruler.

As we study today, let’s think for a moment about why we think, say, and act as we do. What do our actions say about our faith? What kind of person would you want to be, a Nabal or an Abigail? What kind of person would you want to spend your life with, a Nabal or an Abigail? Their view of David is the simple part of this lesson. How David viewed their faith and character is the most important part we ought to take home.

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the simple request of David to Nabal (1 Samuel 25:4-9)? How does Nabal react to it (25:10-11)? How would you describe David’s request? Is it asked respectfully, politely, carefully? Is there anything in this request that would have made you angry? How would you describe Nabal’s response to these men?

Sunday Evening Youth ZOOM Study (6-7-2020)

2. Think for a moment about Nabal. In the verses listed below, note what we can learn about this man's character by his words, actions, and the statements of others.

- 1 Samuel 25:11—
- 1 Samuel 25:17—
- 1 Samuel 25:25—
- 1 Samuel 25:36—

3. Back up to 1 Samuel 24 for a moment. What does David have the opportunity to do to King Saul in this chapter that he refuses to do (24:9-12)? Yet, when Nabal provokes David what is he ready to do (25:13-17, 21-22)?

4. Think for a moment now, about Abigail. In the verses listed below, note what we can learn about her character as we see her quickly responding to her husband's foolish words.

- 1 Samuel 25:3—
- 1 Samuel 25:18—
- 1 Samuel 25:23-24—
- 1 Samuel 25:30-31—

5. As a result of Abigail's persuasive reasoning, how does David respond (1 Samuel 25:32-33)? When Nabal eventually dies, what does David do with Abigail (25:39-42)? Why do you think David would want a wife like Abigail?

Key Lessons:

- Don't live in such a way everybody thinks you're a scoundrel! Don't be a Nabal.
- Don't marry a man just because he's rich. You may regret it (25:2-3, 25).
- Abigail sought to undo what her husband had done (25:18). Abigail sought to prevent what David would do (25:24-31). Love covers a multitude of sins (1 Peter 4:8)!

Additional Notes: _____
