

CHASING AFTER GOD



Message #9

Dealing with an Angry Heart (1 Samuel 25)

1 SAMUEL 25

1 Then Samuel died; and the Israelites gathered together and lamented for him, and buried him at his home in Ramah. And David arose and went down to the Wilderness of Paran.

1 SAMUEL 25

2 Now there was a man in Maon whose business was in Carmel, and the man was very rich. He had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. And he was shearing his sheep in Carmel.

1 SAMUEL 25

3 The name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife Abigail. And she was a woman of good understanding and beautiful appearance; but the man was harsh and evil in his doings. And he was of the house of Caleb.

1 SAMUEL 25

4 When David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep,

5 David sent ten young men; and David said to the young men, "Go up to Carmel, go to Nabal, and greet him in my name.

1 SAMUEL 25

6 "And thus you shall say to him who lives in prosperity: 'Peace be to you, peace to your house, and peace to all that you have!

7 'Now I have heard that you have shearers. Your shepherds were with us, and we did not hurt them, nor was there anything missing from them all the while they were in Carmel.

1 SAMUEL 25

- 8 'Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let my young men find favor in your eyes, for we come on a feast day. Please give whatever comes to your hand to your servants and to your son David.'"
- 9 So when David's young men came, they spoke to Nabal according to all these words in the name of David, and waited.

1 SAMUEL 25

10 Then Nabal answered David's servants, and said, "Who is David, and who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants nowadays who break away each one from his master.

1 SAMUEL 25

11 "Shall I then take my bread and my water and my meat that I have killed for my shearers, and give it to men when I do not know where they are from?"

12 So David's young men turned on their heels and went back; and they came and told him all these words.

1 SAMUEL 25

13 Then David said to his men, "Every man gird on his sword." So every man girded on his sword, and David also girded on his sword. And about four hundred men went with David, and two hundred stayed with the supplies.

1 SAMUEL 25

14 Now one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, "Look, David sent messengers from the wilderness to greet our master; and he reviled them.

15 "But the men were very good to us, and we were not hurt, nor did we miss anything as long as we accompanied them, when we were in the fields.

1 SAMUEL 25

16 "They were a wall to us both by night and day, all the time we were with them keeping the sheep.

17 "Now therefore, know and consider what you will do, for harm is determined against our master and against all his household. For he is such a scoundrel that one cannot speak to him."

(NKJV)

TIME STAMP

(vs 1)

“Then Samuel died”

That great Prophet of the LORD who gave His life and energy to honoring God and delivering His Word has been prompted to Glory.

(vs 1) “Then Samuel died”

In the middle of David’s wilderness season

**What do you do when you lose someone
important?**

**Remember, your source of
life & wisdom still lives.**

(vs 1) “Then Samuel died”

Samuel was the voice of truth in his generation.

God, what are you up to?

“Here am I send me!”

(vs 1) “the Wilderness of Paran”

**What does the word
“wilderness”
tell us?**

Will David pass the test?

The Layout of these 3 Chapters

1 Sam 24

- Passed test
- Showed incredible Restraint

1 Sam 25

- David struggles
- Prepared to fail until intercepted

1 Sam 26

- Passed test
- Showed incredible Restraint

Sound familiar?

**What do you do
when someone
you help
hurts you?**

3 People

Nabal – The Foolish Farmer

David – The Furious Warrior

Abigail – The Faithful Woman

The Situation

1 Samuel 25

- **Sheep shearing season (Spring)**
 - Time of feasting
- **Nabal, a sheep farmer.**
 - 3,000 sheep & 1,000 goats

The Situation

The Situation

- David needs provisions.
- Providing protection for Nabal
 - Because of this they've all prospered greatly.

Nabal

The Foolish Farmer

Very rich

Harsh

Evil in his doings

Scoundrel (good for nothing)

Won't listen to anybody

Folly is with him

Nabal

The Foolish Farmer

- Nabal = fool or stupid or idiot,
–about being immoral & ungodly.

Psalm 14:1

**the fool (nabal) has said in his heart,
there is no God.**

Abigail

The Faithful Woman

- Nabal is married to Abigail.
- The Bible describes her:
 - Good understanding (wise)
 - Beautiful appearance

??? Question ???

The Request

David's Request to Nabal

(vs 8)

Please give whatever comes to your hand to your servants and to your son David."

The Foolish Farmer

(vs 10-11)

Nabal shamed David – insulted him

“Who is David?”

“Who does David think he is?”

“I don't care anything about David”

“he's a rebel from Saul”

The Foolish Farmer

(vs 10-11)

“my bread”

“my water”

“my meat”

“my shearers”

Nabal in violation of Deuteronomy 8:17

David

The Furious Warrior

(vs 12-13)

David's men return and tell him

David said, “saddle up boys, get your sword, we going to see Nabal”

David

The Furious Warrior

David flies off the handle.

**This is churning in David.
He is speaking this to himself.
(vs 21-22)***

1 Samuel 25:21-22

21 Now David had said, "Surely in vain I have protected all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belongs to him. And **he has repaid me evil for good.**

22 "May God do so, and more also, to the enemies of David, if I leave one **male*** of all who belong to him by morning light."

Insights on the word – “male”

KJV

(vs 22) if I leave of all that pertain to him by the morning light any **that pisseth against the wall.**

- Slang way to describe men.
 - Real Talk, not Church Talk
 - It's showing us how mad and enraged David is.
 - It's about to go down.

Why did David get so furious?

- Attacked & Insulted
- Shamed
- Accumulation of things & David “snapped”
—“the last straw”

Can't nobody set you off like a “fool”

Warnings about Anger

- Nothing good usually comes out of this kind of anger.

(Dallas Willard)

Whatever you think you can do with anger, you can do better without it.

ANGER

Warnings

Psalm 37:8

Cease from anger, and forsake wrath; Do not fret-it only causes harm.

Proverbs 29:11

A fool vents all his feelings, but a wise man holds them back.

ANGER

Warnings

Proverbs 25:28

**Whoever has no rule over his own spirit
is like a city broken down, without walls.**

**David has let this “fool”
turn him into a “fool”.**

Abigail

The Faithful Woman

Servants run to Abigail to warn her

She prepares a feast:

**200 loaves of bread, 2 skins of wine,
5 roasted sheep, roasted grain,
raisins, figs**

Abigail

The Faithful Woman

Abigail & David

Listen to what she says to David

vs 23-31*

1 Samuel 25

23 Now when Abigail saw David, she hastened to dismount from the donkey, fell on her face before David, and bowed down to the ground.

24 So she fell at his feet and said: "On me, my lord, on me let this iniquity be! And please let your maidservant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your maidservant."

1 Samuel 25

25 "Please, let not my lord regard this scoundrel Nabal. For as his name is, so is he: Nabal is his name, and folly is with him. But I, your maidservant, did not see the young men of my lord whom you sent.

1 Samuel 25

26 "Now therefore, my lord, as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, since the LORD has held you back from coming to bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hand, now then, let your enemies and those who seek harm for my lord be as Nabal.

1 Samuel 25

27 "And now this present which your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord.

28 "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

29 "Yet a man has risen to pursue you and seek your life, but the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living with the LORD your God; and the lives of your enemies He shall sling out, as from the pocket of a sling.

1 Samuel 25

30 "And it shall come to pass, when the LORD has done for my lord according to all the good that He has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you ruler over Israel,

1 Samuel 25

31 "that this will be no grief to you, nor offense of heart to my lord, either that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself. But when the LORD has dealt well with my lord, then remember your maidservant."

Mercy & Grace Win the Day

- David heeds the wisdom of Abigail.
- Abigail returns home to tell Nabal – he's drunk.
 - She tells him the next day
 - Text implies that Nabal got so mad he stroked out and died 10 days later. “The LORD stuck him”
- David returns to Abigail and marries her.

From Nabal

- **Don't play the fool. It's end is destruction.**
- **Don't allow anger & harshness be the way you are known.**

Jesus said in Matthew 7:24-27: the way to be wise is to build your life on Him & His teachings, everything else is foolishness.

From Abigail

- When you know what to do, act quickly, wisely & decisively.
- Be humble & courageous.
- Speak the truth and don't let a fool make you foolish.

From Abigail

- Shift your perspective from your emotions to wisdom.
 - Bring God back into focus.
 - Be reminded of your calling and future.
 - Be warned of the consequences and the regrets of a bad decision.
 - Remember, God will work it out.

From David

- Hear wisdom when it's spoken. Takes a humble & tender heart.
 - Jesus: “He who has an ear, let him hear...”
- Trust God with the outcome.
 - God doesn't need our help, He wants our trust.

About Anger

- Don't let anger define you or destroy you.
 - Don't be a Nabal. Don't play the fool.

Ask Jesus to deliver you from the stronghold of anger.

About Anger

- **Pause** at your warning signs.
 - Immediately, ask the LORD to help you.
 - It's better to ask here than to have ask for help with the clean-up.

About Anger

- Phone your Abigail.
 - The voice of reason, truth, wisdom

About Anger

- Pray and let God handle it.
 - Vengeance is Mine, says the LORD, I will repay.
 - Trust & obey for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust & obey.

Dealing with an Angry Heart

Lots of angry folks we've got to deal with.

Lots of anger lives in many hearts.

Jesus wants to set you free!