

Abigail

“A Wise and Level Headed Woman”

Cast of Characters:

Abigail: a truly amazing and inspiring woman! She was beautiful, intelligent, wise, courageous, strong yet humble, level-headed and a person of action.

Nabal: Abigail’s husband. He was a very wealthy rancher - but was surly, mean, wicked and doesn’t listen to advice. His name means “fool” and he lived down to his name!

David: he was a young shepherd, a great military leader and future king.

THE STORY (1 Samuel 25:1-42; takes place about 1,000 B.C.). We see Nabal, Abigail and David in action. In summary, Nabal foolishly insults David, David plans to kill Nabal and all his male family members and servants, and Abigail wisely and courageously intervenes. There is a nice “rest of the story” ending (including a new marriage and bearing of a son – Kileab aka Daniel - 2 Sam 3:3; I Chron 3:1).

Key observations and insights?

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Some Learning’s from Abigail’s Example:

- 1) Abigail provides us with a pattern for successful confrontations
- 2) Abigail had wisdom to listen to the young shepherd and side with him
- 3) Abigail had wisdom to take immediate action, including meeting David’s request
- 4) Abigail had wisdom to act with humility
- 5) Abigail had wisdom to put things in proper perspective for David. She appealed to what was best in David’s character.
- 6) Abigail had wisdom to ask for David’s favor
- 7) Abigail models that women should not hide their strengths in an effort to be acceptable to men
- 8) Couples today should emulate the exchange between Abigail and David. Abigail offered advice, but in a wise and gracious way. David did not let his ego deter him from heeding what she said.

Other learning’s and applications to us today?