

**“Disse David and Dear Abby”
I Sam. 25**

CONTEXT: David spares Saul in 24, 26. Sandwiched in between in 25 he nearly pulls “a Saul,” but spares foolish Nabal thanks to Abigail.

Ingratitude of Nabal provokes David’s fury. (1-13, 21,22)

- *Samuel dies soon after Saul realizes he can’t stop prophecy (24:20).
- *David (former shepherd) expected a kickback for kindness on this festive occasion (2 Sam. 13:23,28), not insults *evil for good* (21).
- *Nabal’s attitude from selfishness--8x *I / My*, not bad news of Nob.

Intervention planned by Abigail. (14-20)

- *A servant (unsung hero) alerts Abigail of Nabal’s folly / David’s plan.
- *Abigail’s hurried ethical dilemma—dishonor husband or save him?!
- *So much food there (36) she can take a lot without anyone noticing!

Intercession of Abigail. (23-44)

- *She plead selflessly / humbly (6x *your maidservant* / 14x *my lord*).
- *She prophetically reaffirms David’s destiny (Nabal: *Who is David?*).
- *She protects David from *bloodguilt* (19:5)—confessed as *evil* (39).
- *David blessed the Lord and Abigail (she’s a true Godsend!)
- *Question: Why David’s vengeance aimed at Nabal, but not Saul?
These guys are so alike! (Both called powerful **fools** (king / king-like) who return **evil for good** upon David, who have females from their clan that wed David, who die by divine decree).

*Nabal has a stroke / coma / dies at God’s hand—a lesson for David (cf. 25:38 / 26:10, 2 Sam. 16:9-12) plus a meal and mate to boot! Methinks Abigail should have been his lone mate after Michal is given away by Saul. Did he just marry Ahinoam on the rebound?

Consider. . .

- +What major theme of 1 Samuel occurs yet again here?***
- +What must I beware of after keeping my cool w/my “superiors”?***
- +Will I choose to be an energetic interceder even if it might cost me?***
- +Will I allow my fury to ironically make me like those who hurt me?***
- +What does David learn about God’s battles and his own battles?***
- +Who recognizes David’s right to rule and who doesn’t?***