

ABIGAIL LEADS THE WAY

DAVID • Part 3

September 22, 2019

1 Samuel 25:2–42

² A certain man in Maon...His name was **Nabal** and his wife's name was **Abigail**. She was an **intelligent** and **beautiful** woman, but her husband was **surlly** and **mean** in his dealings...

⁸ David said: *Please give your servants and your son David whatever you can find for them.*"

¹⁰ Nabal answered...*"Who is this David...and why should I take my bread and water, and the meat...and give it to men coming from who knows where?"*

¹² David's men...reported every word. David said to his men, **"Each of you strap on your sword!"**

¹⁴ One of the servants told Abigail...Abigail acted quickly... but she did not tell her husband Nabal.

²¹ David had just said, *"It's been useless—all my watching over this fellow's property in the wilderness so that nothing of his was missing. **He has paid me back evil for good.** May God deal with [me] be it ever so severely, if by morning I leave alive one male of all who belong to him!"*

²³ When Abigail saw David...she fell at his feet and said: *"...Hear what your servant has to say. Please pay no attention, my lord, to that wicked man Nabal. He is just like his name—his name means Fool and folly goes with him...[Then] my lord will not have on his conscience the staggering burden of needless bloodshed or of having avenged himself. And when the Lord your God has brought my lord success, remember your servant."*

³² David said to Abigail, *"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, who has sent you today to meet me. **May you be blessed for your good judgment and for keeping me from bloodshed this day and from avenging myself with my own hands.**"*

³⁵ Then David accepted...what she had brought him and said, *"Go home in peace. I have heard your words and granted your request."*

³⁶ When Abigail went to Nabal, he was...very drunk. So she told him nothing at all until daybreak. Then in the morning, when Nabal was sober, his wife told him all these things, and his heart failed him...about ten days later, the Lord struck Nabal and he died.

³⁹ When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, *"Praise be to the Lord...He has kept his servant from doing wrong and has brought Nabal's wrongdoing down on his own head."* Then David sent word to Abigail, asking her to become his wife...Abigail quickly got on a donkey and...became his wife.

THREE CHARACTERS. THREE RESPONSES. ONE HERO.

NABAL: _____ **FOR GOOD**

DAVID: **EVIL FOR** _____

ABIGAIL: _____ **FOR EVIL**

1 Peter 3:9–11

Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

For, *"Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it."*

Matthew 5:43–45

You have heard that it was said, *'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'* **But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,** that you may be children of your Father in heaven.

QUESTION #1:

DO I REALLY WANT _____?

QUESTION #2:

WHAT _____?

QUESTION #3:

WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE _____?