



First Samuel Pursuing the Heart of God

Follow the Cove on Facebook for weekly updates, podcasts or post a question. Search for CRB Cove and “like” it to share with your friends!

“Choosing Wisdom over Foolishness”

David, Nabal and Abigail

1 Samuel 25:1–44

March 11, 2018

Dr. Mark Strauss

Theme: In an episode that turns out to be a test for David, the future king is humiliated and insulted by a man named Nabal, who refuses David’s request for supplies. David prepares to retaliate by attacking Nabal for his foolishness. Yet Nabal’s wise wife Abigail intervenes, apologizing for her husband’s bad behavior, offering supplies to David and his men, and acknowledging God’s choice of David to be king. David responds in kind, commending Abigail and withdrawing his troops. Divine justice is then enacted: When Nabal hears of David’s actions, he dies of a heart attack. Abigail subsequently becomes David’s wife.

Outline:

1. The Death of Samuel (25:1): Israel loses their last judge

2. David and Abigail
 - a. The identity of Nabal and Abigail (25:2–3)

 - b. David sends men to Nabal to request supplies (25:4–8)

- c. Nabal's foolish response (25:9–11)
- d. David prepares to rumble (25:12–13)
- e. A wise servant consults Abigail (25:14-17)
- f. Abigail's wise plan (25:18–22)
- g. Abigail's wise speech (25:23–31)
- h. David's gracious response to Abigail (25:32–35)
- i. The death of Nabal (25:36–39a)
- j. Abigail becomes David's Wife (25:39b–44)

Takeaway: Living a life of biblical wisdom, expressed in wise and gracious words, generous acts of service to others, and a humble willingness to forgive, will result in spiritual success.

Next Cove: Mar 18, 2017
David Again Spares Saul's Life
1 Samuel 26:1-25