

Fascinating Stories of Forgotten Lives Rediscovering Some Old Testament Characters

Abigail: The Woman Who Saved Her Husband's Neck

1 SAMUEL 25



The Heart of the Matter

Tucked away in the folds of Scripture are numerous human-interest stories that are not known by most. Although unknown, they hold within them principles and insights and lessons that are timelessly significant. Even those stories whose origins are multiple centuries old sustain a relevance that is remarkably up to date. We have no difficulty stepping into the scene and identifying with the characters involved in the plot. Such is the case in the story we discover recorded in 1 Samuel 25. It is amazing—change a few particulars, the geography, and the date in which it first happened, and we find ourselves reenacting a series of events as modern as today's news. As we shall see, it is the story of an unfair boss, a strained marriage, and a greathearted woman whose act of unselfish bravery saved her husband's neck! Its fairy-tale-like ending makes the story one of the most memorable in all the Old Testament.



Discovering the Way

1. The Main Characters (1 Samuel 25:1–3)

David, not yet king, was the “watcher” of Nabal's sheep. Nabal was a stubborn and rude man who owed David for David's protection. And Abigail was the intelligent and beautiful wife of Nabal.

2. Following the Plot (1 Samuel 25:4–42; Romans 15:4)

David requested remuneration from Nabal, and when Nabal refused, David took his troops on a quest for retaliation. Abigail stopped David and his troops and begged for mercy to save her husband's life.

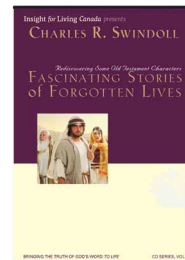


Starting Your Journey

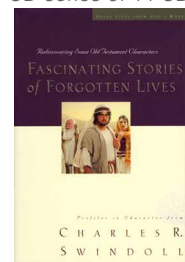
We learn three key lessons from this story. We learn from David that rash reactions never pay off. We learn from Nabal that insensitive husbands always leave unknown heartaches in their wake. And we learn from Abigail that wise wives seldom miss the best use of timing and tact.



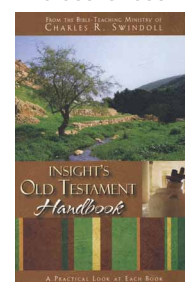
Tools for Digging Deeper



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