



Heroes & Villains Series, No. 31: Abigail, I Samuel 25

Mike Halpin ~ July 7, 2019

Intro: Last week we saw an unholy, murderous life in the person of King Saul's servant, Doeg...this week we see a person who loves and preserves life. Abigail combines some of the finest elements of Christ like faithfulness we've seen in other women of faith...

Main point(s)

- God is determined to save/preserve life, and we should be too.
- Humility can often accomplish what power can't
- Wisdom is crucial in helping others see God's perspective

Text: 1st Samuel 25

Pew bible # 247

I. **Saving Life—**

Everything Abigail did was to save life.

From Adam on, unless God does something, unless he acts on our behalf as Abigail acted on behalf of her household, we'll all die. We were like Nabal...

- foolish, 1st Corinthians 1:27
- alienated from God and life, Ephesians 2:12
- under a death sentence, Ephesians 2:12

Like Abigail, Jesus left his home and confronted death before death could confront us.

Ezekiel 18:23

God went to extremes in order to redeem us, save us, give us life that never ends.

Christ like faithfulness means we not only personally embrace life through faith in Jesus, but that like Abigail, we're sharing God's love and life w/ others.

II. Christ like Humility—

How does a woman, w/ no weapons, no soldiers, stop an invading army? How can one person stop hundreds?

V 23 Abigail...she hurried and got down...fell before David on her face... bowed to the ground. 24 She fell at his feet

- She calls David "lord" 14X! and herself "your servant" 6X.
- She points out David's present power as well as his future glory and status as king.
- She takes the blame for her husband.

Philippians 2:3–11

7X in the NT epistles believers are told to be humble or to put on humility.

III. Christ like Wisdom—

Abigail wasn't only humble; she was also wise.

- She takes the blame for her husband.
- She invokes God's personal name 7X, a reminder that David still answers to a higher authority.
- She provides the kind of gifts she knew David had hoped for; provisions for his men and himself.
- In her humility she speaks w/ discretion and wisdom.
 - V 35, David says "I have obeyed your voice...."

Old and New Testaments praise wisdom and exhort us to acquire wisdom. Abigail had done that.

- Read God's word; meditate on it.
- Read Proverbs regularly.
- Pursue our relationship w/ Christ because ultimately, He is the Wisdom we seek:
 - 1 Corinthians 1:30 God has made Christ our wisdom.
 - Colossians 2:3 all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are to be found in Christ.

Abigail is a lovely, Christlike example of valuing life like God does, w/ humility and wisdom.

Jesus came according to the wisdom of God to become one of us and in the ultimate act of humility bowed to the father in his death on the Cross in order to save life. Let's make sure we've not only personally received eternal life through faith in Christ, but that we're also agents of life in sharing the gospel w/ others.

It's possible to exert great influence with no more personal power than Christ like humility and wisdom.