



Women of the Bible

Abigail the Wise

Lesson 13

In this life the hardest of times can often bring out the very best in a person – so was the case with Abigail. The Bible presents her as a beautiful, intelligent woman who is unfortunately married to a rich fool named Nabal. He acts rudely and thoughtlessly toward David and his men and immediately Abigail finds herself in the midst of a hostile and deadly situation. Instead of panicking, she wisely moves into action. Not only does she save her household but the Lord uses her as a messenger to warn David and keep him from shedding innocent blood. In her quiet way she reminds David that vengeance belongs to the Lord. David receives not only her words, but the provisions she brings for his men, and then he sends her home in peace. Never forget wisdom comes in many forms and God makes it available in abundance to those who are simply willing to ask Him for it.

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer

This Week's Scripture: 1 Samuel 25:14-35

¹⁴Now one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, saying, "Look, David sent messengers from the wilderness to greet our master; and he reviled them. ¹⁵But the men were very good to us, and we were not hurt, nor did we miss anything as long as we accompanied them, when we were in the fields. ¹⁶They were a wall to us both by night and day, all the time we were with them keeping the sheep. ¹⁷Now therefore, know and consider what you will do, for harm is determined against our master and against all his household. For he is such a scoundrel that one cannot speak to him." ¹⁸Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves of bread, two skins of wine, five sheep already dressed, five seahs of roasted grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and loaded them on donkeys. ¹⁹And she said to her servants, "Go on before me; see, I am coming after you." But she did not tell her husband Nabal. ²⁰So it was, as she rode on the donkey, that she went down under cover of the hill; and there were David and his men, coming down toward her, and she met them. ²¹Now David had said, "Surely in vain I have protected all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belongs to him.

And he has repaid me evil for good. ²²May God do so, and more also, to the enemies of David, if I leave one male of all who belong to him by morning light.” ²³Now when Abigail saw David, she dismounted quickly from the donkey, fell on her face before David, and bowed down to the ground. ²⁴So she fell at his feet and said: “On me, my lord, on me let this iniquity be! And please let your maidservant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your maidservant. ²⁵Please, let not my lord regard this scoundrel Nabal. For as his name is, so is he: Nabal is his name, and folly is with him! But I, your maidservant, did not see the young men of my lord whom you sent. ²⁶Now therefore, my lord, as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, since the Lord has held you back from coming to bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hand, now then, let your enemies and those who seek harm for my lord be as Nabal. ²⁷And now this present which your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord. ²⁸Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant. For the Lord will certainly make for my lord an enduring house, because my lord fights the battles of the Lord, and evil is not found in you throughout your days. ²⁹Yet a man has risen to pursue you and seek your life, but the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living with the Lord your God; and the lives of your enemies He shall sling out, as from the pocket of a sling. ³⁰And it shall come to pass, when the Lord has done for my lord according to all the good that He has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you ruler over Israel, ³¹that this will be no grief to you, nor offense of heart to my lord, either that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself. But when the Lord has dealt well with my lord, then remember your maidservant.” ³²Then David said to Abigail: “Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! ³³And blessed is your advice and blessed are you, because you have kept me this day from coming to bloodshed and from avenging myself with my own hand. ³⁴For indeed, as the Lord God of Israel lives, who has kept me back from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, surely by morning light no males would have been left to Nabal!” ³⁵So David received from her hand what she had brought him, and said to her, “Go up in peace to your house. See, I have heeded your voice and respected your person.”

This Week’s Memory Verse:

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

James 1:5(NKJV)

1. According to this week’s memory verse, wisdom is ours for the asking. But what does true wisdom look like? Read James 3:13-17 and note the positive attributes of godly wisdom.

2. In the above scripture it also notes the negative attributes of earthly wisdom. What are they?

3. List some examples in our world today of wisdom from above and earthly wisdom. What are the outcomes of such wisdoms? _____

Reflect and Respond – Psalm 111:10 says; “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments.” God’s word is truth therefore fearing the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Why do you think this is and what kind of fear do you think is being spoken of here? _____

Result – Consider today’s bible study lecture. What one lesson will you take away from this study and apply to your walk with the Lord? _____
