

# Living for Christ in a Fallen World

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1 Samuel 25:23-44

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## David Responds to God's Truth

- Contrast: Saul(doubles down in sin) vs. David(listens & responds)
- David praises Abigail for godly reproof<sup>Ps2</sup>
- We likewise should pray<sup>Mt6:13</sup>, look to God's steadfast love<sup>Pss107:1...43</sup>

## God's Justice

- This passage is an object lesson preserved for us!
- Redeemed believers live out the Gospel of Grace<sup>Rom12:15-21</sup>
- Vengeance is reserved for God<sup>Rm12:19</sup> alone
- Makes the Gospel message<sup>2Cor5:21</sup> so much more amazing
- Jesus took God's wrath<sup>Rom4:5-8</sup> David looked forward to gospel
- God's Holiness & Justice demands sin be dealt with
- OT: Achan<sup>Josh7:24-26</sup>, etc. NT Consummation<sup>Rev20:12</sup>
- Jesus bore wrath for sins of believers, no punishment<sup>Rev20:15</sup>
- Because of Gospel, God takes vengeance<sup>Dt32:35</sup>, not us!

## Leaving Vengeance to God

- Does divine retribution promote violence in society? No!
- David stopped when reminded of God's justice<sup>26</sup>
- David didn't need to take vengeance because God will<sup>Dt32:35</sup>
- God often acts quickly: Korah<sup>Num16:1-33</sup>, People grumbled<sup>Num16:40,49</sup>
- God will deal with sin, sometimes quickly... always in His time!
- What about government<sup>Rm13:3-4</sup> vengeance? Parents disciplining?
- Always as humble servants of the Holy God, never for selfish gain
- David blessed<sup>35</sup> with gifts; granted peace & forgiveness<sup>35</sup>.
- Remember Rom 12:20-21 good far more powerful than evil!

## God Settles Accounts

- Nabal drunk & spending lavishly in party<sup>36</sup>
- Abigail speaks truth in the morning<sup>37</sup>, Nabal's heart died<sup>stroke?</sup>
- God took Nabal's life<sup>38</sup> – *vengeance is mine*<sup>Di32:25</sup>...
- God is the same, don't think He won't deal with you<sup>Jn12:47-48</sup>
- Will you be ready when Jesus returns and settles accounts?

## David Rejoices at God's Glory

- David didn't need to deal with Nabal, God did.
- Probably not many mourners for Nabal
- David praised God<sup>39</sup> for His justice & protection<sup>Pss58:10-11</sup>
- David wasn't rejoicing at Nabal<sup>Prov24:17</sup> but at God's glory
- We should learn from David's words<sup>Psalms37:7-9</sup>

## Faithfulness Repaid

- How difficult must have been Abigail's marriage to Nabal...
- Marriage wisdom: choose godly spouse<sup>1Cor7:39;2Cor6:14</sup>
- David knew a treasure when he had seen Abigail - sent proposal
- Abigail knew God was working in David's life - equally yoked

## Even David is not perfect

- Saul gaven Michal away<sup>44</sup> apparently David then married Ahinoam
- David also married Bathsheba after sin
- David shows that no earthly king can save us...
- We need God's perfect King Jesus Christ

## New Life as the Anointed One's Bride

- Abigail rides out to meet David... like those who look to Jesus
- Abigail believed God's promises about David<sup>30</sup>, future glory<sup>Pss45:6</sup>
- We also will reign with Jesus<sup>Rom8:16-17</sup>
- Turn from hard life of sin to King Jesus<sup>Mt11:28;Jn5:24</sup>