

# David, A Man After God's Own Heart<sup>February 17, 2019</sup>

## Dealing with a vengeful heart

1 Samuel 25

Pastor Brian Early

Core value: Grow

### From:

**1 Samuel 25:21-22** David had just been saying, "A lot of good it did to help this fellow. We protected his flocks in the wilderness, and nothing he owned was lost or stolen. But he has repaid me evil for good. <sup>22</sup> **May God strike me and kill me if even one man of his household is still alive tomorrow morning!**

### To:

**1 Samuel 25:32-33** David replied to Abigail, "Praise the LORD, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today! <sup>33</sup> Thank God for your good sense! **Bless you for keeping me from murder and from carrying out vengeance with my own hands.**

### Severe anger = temporary insanity

Anger is a choice, as well as a habit. It is a learned reaction to frustration, in which you behave in ways that you would rather not. In fact, severe anger is a form of insanity. You are insane whenever you are not in control of your behavior. Therefore, when you are angry and out of control, you are temporarily insane.

WAYNE W. DYER, Your Erroneous Zones

### Background

- Chapter 25 is sandwiched between 24 and 26
- David has assembled a group of warriors and is wondering in the wilderness to avoid King Saul.

### The Drama

- David and his men work for free as security guards on the estate of Nabal, a wealthy, mean and evil man, 1-8
- Nabal does David and his men dirty by not tipping them for their work, 9-11
- David's anger overwhelms him, and he seeks to pay revenge to Nabal by killing him and everyone in his estate. 12-13
- Nabal's wife, Abigail seeks to prevent bloodshed by meeting David and intercedes on Nabal's behalf. 14-31
- David comes to his senses out of anger's insanity and stops his intentions for vengeance. 32-35

### Postscript

- Nabal dies by God's hand after hearing news of the previous events. 36-38
- David marries Abigail. 39-43

### Lessons Learned

Whatever we do when conflict arises, be wise.

**Proverbs 29:11** A fool always loses his temper, but a wise man holds it back.

Identify when we need to HALT, and maybe keep from saying or doing something for a season.

- ✓ Hungry
- ✓ Angry
- ✓ Lonely
- ✓ Tired

Realize how insane we can become when we operate out of anger.

**Ephesians 4:26-27** BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and do not give the devil an opportunity.

<sup>NLT</sup> **Ephesians 4:26-47** And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, <sup>27</sup> for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

**Recognize that under anger's insanity, we won't get anything done that is good.**

**James 1:19-20** *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

**Understand that in Jesus, our sinful reactions can be transformed to be like Jesus.**

**Romans 6:5-6** For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin;

**Finally rely on and wait for God to take care of things.**

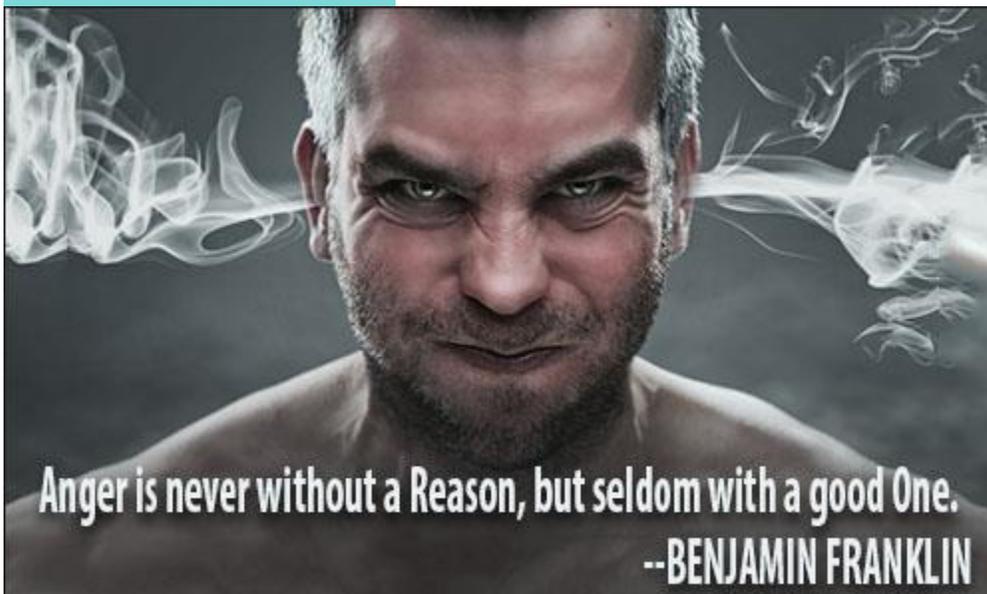
<sup>Romans 12:17</sup> Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. <sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. <sup>19</sup> Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

**Psalms 109:1-5, 21-22** For the choir director. A Psalm of David. O God of my praise, do not be silent! <sup>2</sup> For they have opened the wicked and deceitful mouth against me; They have spoken against me with a lying tongue. <sup>3</sup> They have also surrounded me with words of hatred, and fought against me without cause. <sup>4</sup> In return for my love they act as my accusers; But I am *in* prayer. <sup>5</sup> Thus they have repaid me evil for good and hatred for my love.

<sup>21</sup> But You, O GOD, the Lord, deal *kindly* with me for Your name's sake; Because Your lovingkindness is good, deliver me;

<sup>22</sup> For I am afflicted and needy, And my heart is wounded within me.

**HALT**



1. What do we know about Nabal from this passage?
2. How is Abigail described?
3. Why did David request food and on a "Feast Day"?
4. When did David make this request and what did that show about David?
5. What was Nabal's response to the request?
6. Why did the servants come to Abigail with news about David and his men?
7. How did Abigail intercede between Nabal and David?
8. When Nabal found out what Abigail did, what happened to him?