

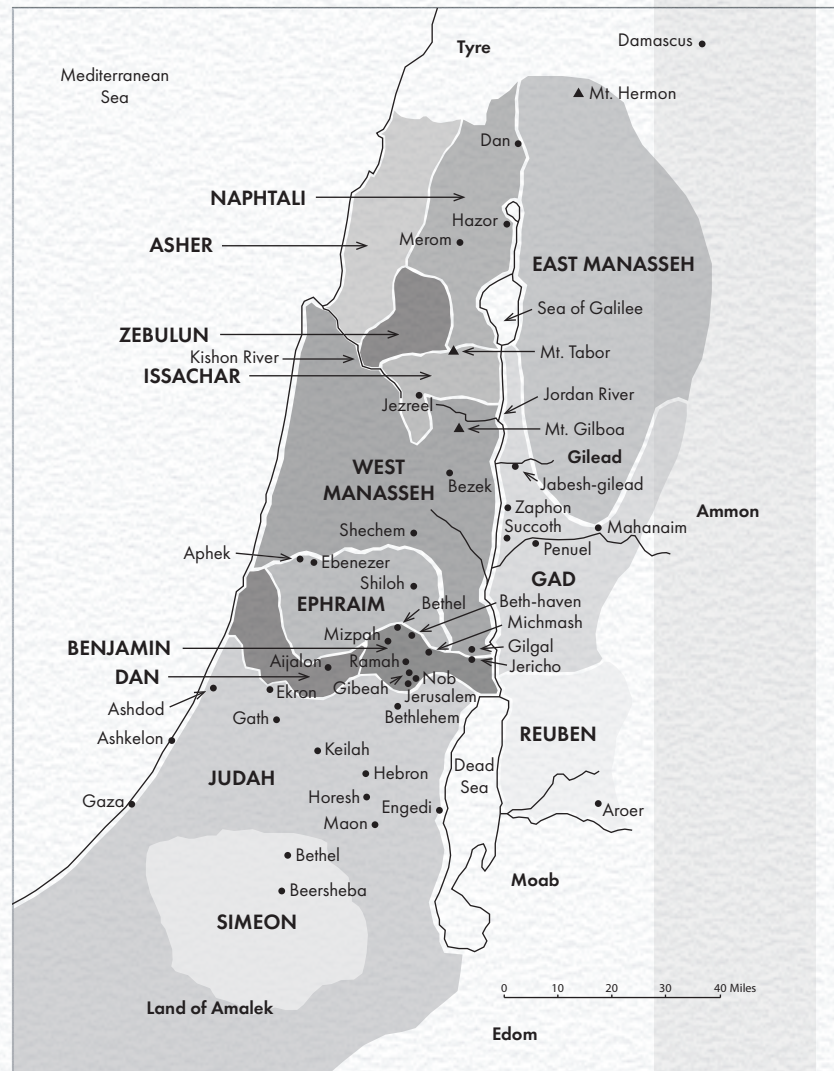
1 Samuel 25

WHEN

- Israel's first king, Saul, was appointed in approximately 1050 B.C.
- The events documented in 1 Samuel 25 took place between approximately 1015-1010 B.C.

WHERE

- Nabal was from Maon, but his sheep were in Carmel for shearing.
- Carmel was approximately 1 mile or 1.6 km north of Maon.



CHARACTERS

- **David** – He was selected by God to eventually become the second king of Israel.
- **Nabal** – A very rich man who had a disagreement with David. He is described as harsh and badly behaved.
- **Abigail** – The wife of Nabal. She is described as discerning and beautiful.

OUTLINE

- **THE DEATH OF SAMUEL (25:1a):**
 - + Samuel died and all Israel mourned for him.
 - + He had been a prophet and judge in Israel for decades.
- **DAVID'S DISPUTE WITH NABAL (25:1b-13):**
 - + Nabal of Maon was a man of disgraceful character.
 - + He was a very rich man who had 3,000 sheep and 1,000 goats.
 - + David's men protected Nabal's sheep and shepherds while they were in the wilderness.
 - + When David heard Nabal had gone to Carmel to shear his sheep, David sent messengers to him to ask if he would show them generosity because it was a special feast day.
 - + Nabal responded by insulting David and refusing.
 - + David was so angry, he strapped on his sword and gathered 400 men to attack Nabal's house.
- **ABAGAIL SAVES NABAL'S HOUSEHOLD (25:14-35):**
 - + Abigail, Nabal's wife, was nothing like her husband. She is described as a discerning woman.
 - + When she heard about her husband's insult and David's anger, she quickly gathered 200 loaves of bread, 2 skins of wine, 5 sheep, 5 seahs of grain, 100 clusters of raisins, and 200 fig cakes and loaded them onto donkeys.
 - + She took the gift and met David's army on the road.
 - + She bowed to David and apologized for her "worthless" husband.
 - + David accepted her apology and her gift and he blessed her.
- **NABAL'S DEATH AND ABIGAIL'S FUTURE (25:36-44):**
 - + After saving her family, Abigail found Nabal drunk and feasting.
 - + In the morning, she told him all that had transpired, and the text says, "his heart died within him."
 - + About 10 days later, God struck Nabal dead.
 - + After her husband's death, David took Abigail as his wife.
 - + David also took a woman named Ahinoam to be his wife.
 - + Michal, David's first wife, was given to another man by her father, Saul.

APPLICATION

- Men, Nabal's legacy is not one you want to repeat.
- You don't want to be a worthless, drunken man who is dependent on your wife to clean up your mistakes.
- Men should be role models for their family, leaders in their home, and Christ-like in their character.
- Nabal's fate makes it clear what God thinks of "worthless" men.