

“The Fool, The Godly Woman, And The Grace Of God” (Part 1)
1 Samuel 25:1-44

“For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.” (Romans 15:4)

“The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good” (Psalm 14:1). “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice” (Proverbs 12:15). “A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion” (Proverbs 18:2). “A fool’s lips walk into a fight, and his mouth invites a beating. A fool’s mouth is his ruin, and his lips are a snare to his soul” (Proverbs 18:6-7). “Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for he will despise the good sense of your words” (Proverbs 23:9).

- (1 Samuel 25:1-3) — What do we know about Nabal?
 - He was from Maon and his business was a mile north in Carmel. He was very rich; he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats (Job 1:3).
 - Nabal was known as a man who was harsh (stubborn, cruel, or hardened) and badly behaved (evil, wicked, or harmful).
 - Nabal was also a Calebite (Numbers 13:31-33; 14:5-10), which would have made him from the tribe of Judah, just like David (Matthew 1:2-6).
 - One of the young men called Nabal a “worthless man” (1 Samuel 2:12; 10:27; 30:21-24). *“A great description of a ‘worthless man’ in the book of 1 Samuel would be someone who would listen to no one, but themselves, and only sought their own benefit.”*

- (1 Samuel 25:4-13) — Nabal refused to love his neighbor....*“For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Galatians 5:14)*
 - David is honoring Nabal and showing his desire for Nabal to be blessed and comes to him in friendship (1 Chronicles 12:16-18).
 - When good is done towards us we should be joyful and generous in return. *“If anyone returns evil for good, evil will not depart from his house.” (Proverbs 17:13)*
 - Nabal was rude and stingy with his abundance. He was not interested in blessing David and his men though they had been a blessing to him. *“But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him?” (1 John 3:17)*

- (1 Samuel 25:36-38) — Nabal was not rich towards God....*“But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” (Luke 12:20-21)*
 - Lessons from Luke 12:13-21:
 - Beware of covetousness.
 - Having earthly possessions is not the pinnacle of life.
 - Everything that we have is from God.
 - We need to be rich in heavenly riches, not earthly.

Announcements:

★**SUNDAY TEACHING CLASS:** The new Sunday teaching class starts *THIS* Sunday, January 22nd, at 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. This class will be an 8 week course entitled “A Biblical View of Prayer” and will be taught by Elder Zach. It is not too late to sign-up if you are interested in participating in this class!

★**CHURCH MEMBERS MEETING:** We will be having a business meeting *THIS* Sunday, January 22nd, immediately following the worship service to discuss the 2023 Church Budget. If you are currently a church member, please plan on staying for this important meeting!

★**BAPTISMS:** Our next baptism service will be Sunday, February 5th. If you are interested in being baptized or have any questions about being baptized, please see Pastor Jeremy or one of the Elders.

★**SOTERIOLOGY (PRACTICUM COURSE):** On Monday, January 30th, we will be starting a new course of study in the Practicum: Soteriology — the theology of salvation. This particular course is open to ANYONE in the church who would like to audit the class. The Practicum is held every Monday from 6-9pm in the Fellowship Hall. The Soteriology course will run for 9-10 weeks, and will be taught by Pastor Jeremy and Elder Richard. If you are interested in auditing this class or if you have any questions about this class, please see Elder Richard!

★**CHURCH DAY OF PRAYER:** NEXT Wednesday, January 25th, will be our monthly day of prayer as a church body. We ask that everyone set aside a specific time of prayer on that day to pray for the leaders and ministries of our church body.