



The Tact of Abigail

1 Samuel 25:2-42



The Value of Tact

- ◆ Tact - 1 : sensitive mental or aesthetic perception . . . 2 : a keen sense of what to do or say in order to maintain good relations with others or avoid offense - Webster

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Christians need “TACT”
in teaching the lost,
restoring the erring, and
dealing with one another!



The Value of Tact

- ◆ People can be turned away from the truth by well intentioned & zealous people -
- ◆ It is important to speak the truth – but the truth must be spoken in love – Eph 4:15; Col 4:6

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It is also TRUE that many
WILL NOT LISTEN -
regardless of the manner the
truth is spoken!

David is running from King Saul – (1 Sam 19ff)



The Tact of Abigail



- ◆ Samuel has died - (1 Sam 25:1)
- ◆ A very wealthy man named Nabal & his wife Abigail lived in Maon - (*she was beautiful and of "good understanding, but the man was harsh and evil in his doings. He was of the house of Caleb."*) - (25:2,3)
- ◆ David, who had previously protected Nabal's men, sends to Nabal for needed supplies – (25:4-9; cf 23:24; 25:21)

The Tact of Abigail



- ◆ Nabal, with utter contempt, refuses David – (25:10-11)
- ◆ Angered by Nabal's response, David & his men gird their swords – (25:12-13)
- ◆ Abigail intervenes – (25:14-31)

The Tact of Abigail

Lessons We Need To Learn From Abigail



- ◆ She was “of good understanding” (3)
- ◆ She acted with haste (18)
- ◆ She was humble (23,24)
- ◆ She appealed to the best in David (25-33)

The Tact of Abigail

She was “of good understanding” (3)



- ◆ She knew why David was going to march against Nabal - (25)
- ◆ She knew vengeance belongs to the Lord – (26; cf. Rom 12:19)
- ◆ She knew the Lord was behind David's success – (28-30)
- ◆ She knew God blesses those who put Him first – (29; cf. Mat 6:25ff)

The Tact of Abigail

She was “of good understanding” (3)



- ◆ We Too Need Good Understanding – (Eph 5:15-17)
- ◆ Necessary To Please God, Bear Fruit & Promote Peace & Unity – (Col 1:9-12; Jam 3:13-18)
- ◆ We need to have an understanding of where others are coming from – (2 Cor 2:11; 2 Pet 3:16,17)

The Tact of Abigail

She Acted With Haste (18)



- ◆ She hurried to get supplies to David – (18,19)
- ◆ She took responsibility without delay in going to meet with David to make peace – (19,20)

The Tact of Abigail

She Acted With Haste (18)



- ◆ When we have opportunity to do good – we need to do it – (James 2:15,16; 4:17)
- ◆ We need to redeem the time – (Col. 4:5; Eph 5:15,16)
- ◆ Problems need to be addressed with haste & wisdom! – (Mat 5:23-25; Prov. 15:1; Jas 1:19; 3:17)

The Tact of Abigail

She Was Humble (23,24)



- ◆ She bowed before David – (23,24)
- ◆ She offered to take the punishment for Nabal's wrong – (24)
- ◆ She didn't make excuses for Nabal – (25)

The Tact of Abigail

She Was Humble (23,24)



- ◆ We must be humble before God – (Mat 5:3; Luke 14:11; Jas 4:6-10)
- ◆ We must be humble in dealing with one another – (Eph 4:1-3; Phil. 2:1-5; Col. 3:12,13)
- ◆ Humility is essential in teaching & correcting others – (1 Pet 3:15; 2 Tim 2:25)

The Tact of Abigail

She Appealed To The Best In David (25-33)



- ◆ She was wise in her approach – in pleading with David not to act foolishly – (25)
- ◆ She appealed to David's desire to serve the Lord – (26-28)
- ◆ She appealed to the need for David to have a clear conscience & trust the Lord to avenge him – (27-31)

The Tact of Abigail

She Appealed To The Best In David (25-33)



- ◆ We need to appeal to one's desire to be wise – (Ep 5:15-17)
- ◆ We need to appeal to one's desire to serve the Lord and to be blessed by Him – (Heb 6:9,10)
- ◆ We need to appeal to one's desire to know they are right with God – (John 8:32; 1 Pet 3:21)



Lessons We Need To Learn From Abigail

She was “of good
understanding” (3)

She acted with
haste (18)

She was humble
(23,24)

She appealed to
the best in David
(25-33)

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Lessons We Need To Learn From Abigail

- ◆ David listened to Abigail because of her actions – (32-34)
- ◆ We learn from Abigail the need to act with understanding, haste, humility & wisdom!

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