

Think Before You Speak

Description

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1 Samuel 25:1-13

The name Nabal means “fool” in Hebrew. Whether that was the given name of the rich man or was a later addition to the story, we soon find out that it certainly was a fitting name given his actions in 1 Samuel 25. David and his men provided protection to Nabal’s men while they were shearing sheep, and treated them fairly. In return, David sent a contingent of men to respectfully ask Nabal for some provisions as a simple gesture of gratitude.

Nabal had the means to provide provisions to David and his men. He certainly had a reason to be grateful towards David. Nabal, however, seemed to think that his wealth excused him from common decency and reciprocity. Nabal assumed his privilege entitled him to David’s protection. Unknown to Nabal, his thoughtless comments have invited disaster on himself. His careless words have created trouble where there was no trouble before. We must remember that words are powerful. We must take great care with our speech so as to not create needless trouble.

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