

1 Samuel 25:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And blessed be thy advice, and blessed be thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to shed blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand.

Analysis

And blessed be thy advice, and blessed be thou, which hast kept me this day from coming to shed blood, and from avenging myself with mine own hand.

David's double blessing extends from God to Abigail's wisdom. The Hebrew 'ta'amek' (your advice/discrimenment) receives blessing alongside her person. David explicitly acknowledges what Abigail prevented: bloodshed and self-avenging. The phrase 'mine own hand' echoes her words (v. 26), showing he understood and accepted her argument. David recognizes the magnitude of what almost happened—he was minutes from mass murder over insults. His blessing of Abigail's advice validates her bold intervention. This teachable response demonstrates the difference between Nabal (who could not be spoken to) and David (who received correction from a woman and blessed her for it).

Historical Context

Blessing a woman's 'advice' was notable in patriarchal culture. David's public acknowledgment that Abigail prevented him from sin demonstrated humility uncommon in ancient kings. His acceptance of her counsel set precedent for their future relationship.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How receptive are you to advice that contradicts your current intentions?
2. What does David's blessing of Abigail's counsel teach about receiving wisdom from unexpected sources?

Interlinear Text

כֹּלֶת נִיְּתָנָה וּבָרוּךְ הָעֵד טָעַם הַזֶּה וּבָרוּךְ הָאָתָּה אָשָׁר אָתָּה כֹּלֶת נִיְּתָנָה
And blessed be thy advice And blessed be thou which hast kept
H1288 H2940 H1288 H859 H834 H3607

וְהַשְׁעֵת בְּדִמְעָם מִבְּאָמָר בְּדִמְעָם מִבְּאָמָר
me this day from coming to shed blood and from avenging
H3117 H2088 H935 H1818 H3467

בְּיַד־מֵנִי
myself with mine own hand
H3027

Additional Cross-References

1 Samuel 25:26 (Blood): Now therefore, my lord, as the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, seeing the LORD hath withholden thee from coming to shed blood, and from avenging thyself with thine own hand, now let thine enemies, and they that seek evil to my lord, be as Nabal.

Psalms 141:5 (Parallel theme): Let the righteous smite me; it shall be a kindness: and let him reprove me; it shall be an excellent oil, which shall not break my head: for yet my prayer also shall be in their calamities.

Proverbs 28:23 (Parallel theme): He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue.

Proverbs 25:12 (Parallel theme): As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear.

Proverbs 17:10 (Parallel theme): A reproof entereth more into a wise man than an hundred stripes into a fool.

Proverbs 27:21 (Parallel theme): As the fining pot for silver, and the furnace for gold; so is a man to his praise.

Proverbs 9:9 (Parallel theme): Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

1 Samuel 25:31 (Blood): That this shall be no grief unto thee, nor offence of heart unto my lord, either that thou hast shed blood causeless, or that my lord hath avenged himself: but when the LORD shall have dealt well with my lord, then remember thine handmaid.

1 Samuel 24:19 (Parallel theme): For if a man find his enemy, will he let him go well away? wherefore the LORD reward thee good for that thou hast done unto me this day.