

1 Samuel 25.22-34 chiasm

A: (v. 22) God do so to David and more also, if **by morning I leave so much as one of his who pisses against the wall.**"

B: (vv. 23-26) When **Abigail** saw David, she **hurried** and alighted from the donkey, fell before David on her face, bowing to the ground. She fell at his feet and said, "Upon me alone, my lord, be the guilt; please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant. My lord, put out of your heart this ill-natured fellow, Nabal; for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him; but I, your servant, did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent. Now then, my lord, **as YHWH lives**, and as you yourself live, since **YHWH has restrained you from bloodguilt and from seeking deliverance by your own hand**, now let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be like Nabal.

C: (vv. 27-31) And now let this blessing that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who walk at the foot of my lord. Please forgive the trespass of your servant; for YHWH will certainly make my lord a sure house, because my lord is fighting the battles of YHWH; and evil shall not be found in you so long as you live. If anyone should rise up to pursue you and to seek your life, the life of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of the living under the care of YHWH your God; but the lives of your enemies he shall sling out as from the hollow of a sling. When YHWH has done to my lord according to all the good that he has spoken concerning you, and has appointed you prince over Israel, my lord shall have no cause of grief, or pangs of conscience, for having shed blood without cause or for having saved himself. And when YHWH has dealt well with my lord, then remember your servant."

B¹: (vv. 32-34b) David said to Abigail, "Blessed be YHWH, the God of Israel, who sent you to meet me today! Blessed be your good sense, and blessed be you, who have **kept me today from bloodguilt and from seeking deliverance by my own hand!** For as surely **as YHWH the God of Israel lives**, who has restrained me from hurting you, **unless you had hurried** and come to meet me,

A¹ (v. 34c) truly **by morning** there would not have been left to Nabal **so much as one who pisses against the wall.**"