–Save This Page as a PDF–

David, Nabal and Abigail
First Samuel 25: 1-44

Chapter 25 is the central section that comprises **Chapters 24** to **26**. As such, it not only anchors the literary unit but also facilitates the fact that **Chapters 24** and **26** mirror each other. Beginning with the death of **David's** friend **Samuel**, it ends with **Sha'ul's** giving **David's** wife **Michal** to another man and thus considering **David** as good as dead. It is therefore possible to interpret **Chapter 25** as marking the low point of **David's** fortunes. At the same time, however, in this chapter **David** acquires a wise wife (**Abigail**), who had successfully persuaded **him** not to kill a typical fool (**Nabal**). **Sha'ul**, who figures prominently in **Chapters 24** and **26**, appears only in the last verse of **Chapter 25**. **Sha'ul**, while physically absent, is nevertheless figuratively present in **Nabal**, **his** alter ego.[141]