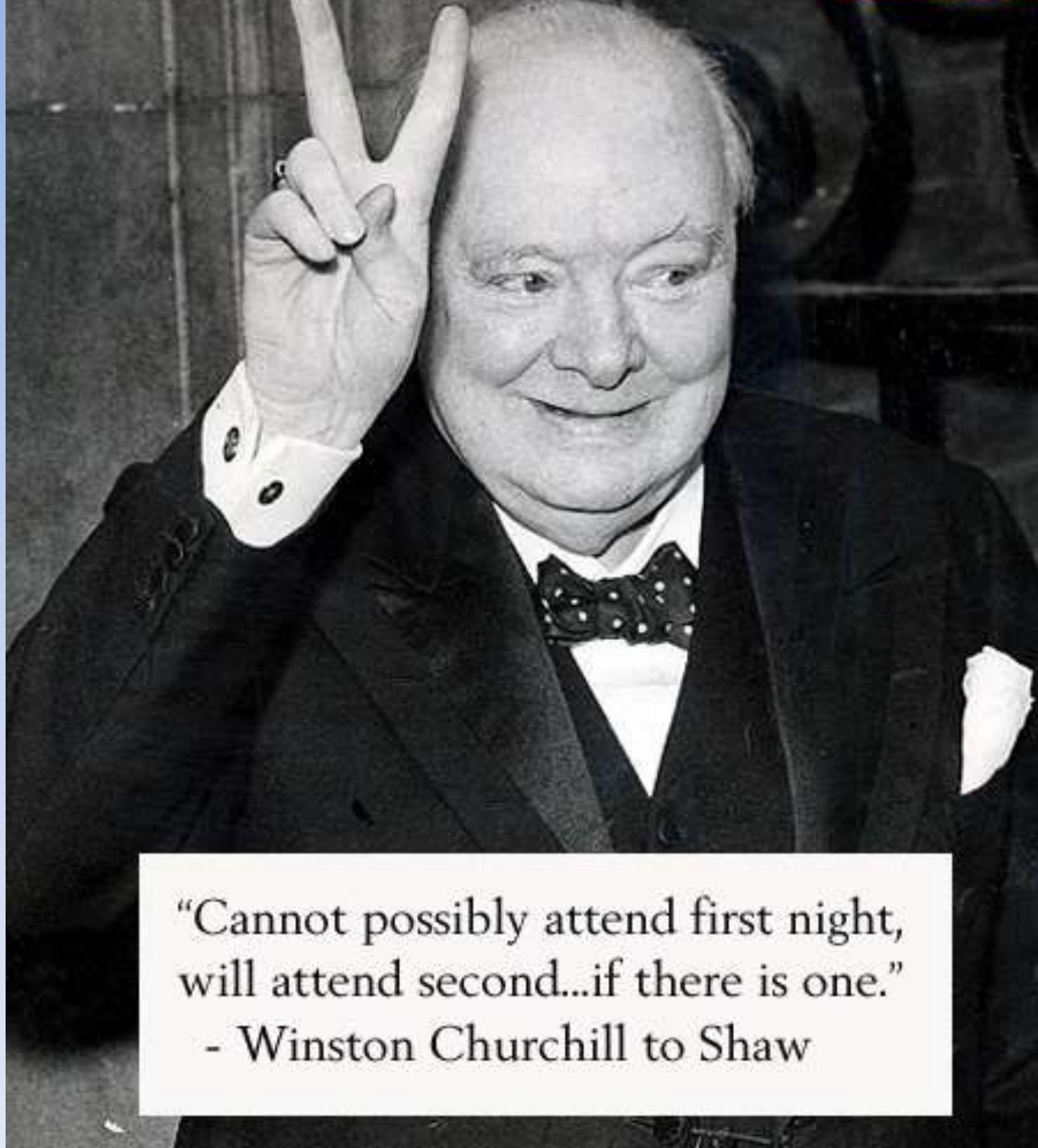


"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."

-Mark Twain



"I am enclosing two tickets to
the first night of my new play;
bring a friend. If you have one."
George Bernard Shaw to Churchill



"Cannot possibly attend first night,
will attend second...if there is one."

- Winston Churchill to Shaw



FACING YOUR GIANTS

You must have the
same attitude that
Christ Jesus had.

(Philippians 2:5, NLT)



Beauty and the Beast(s)



I. The Story



facing your
GIANTS



Nabal

1. The Story



Nabal = “fool” (*Hb.*)

1. The Story

"Nabal, a descendant of Caleb,
was crude and mean in all his
dealings...so ill-tempered that no
one could speak to him."

(1 Sam. 25:3, 17)

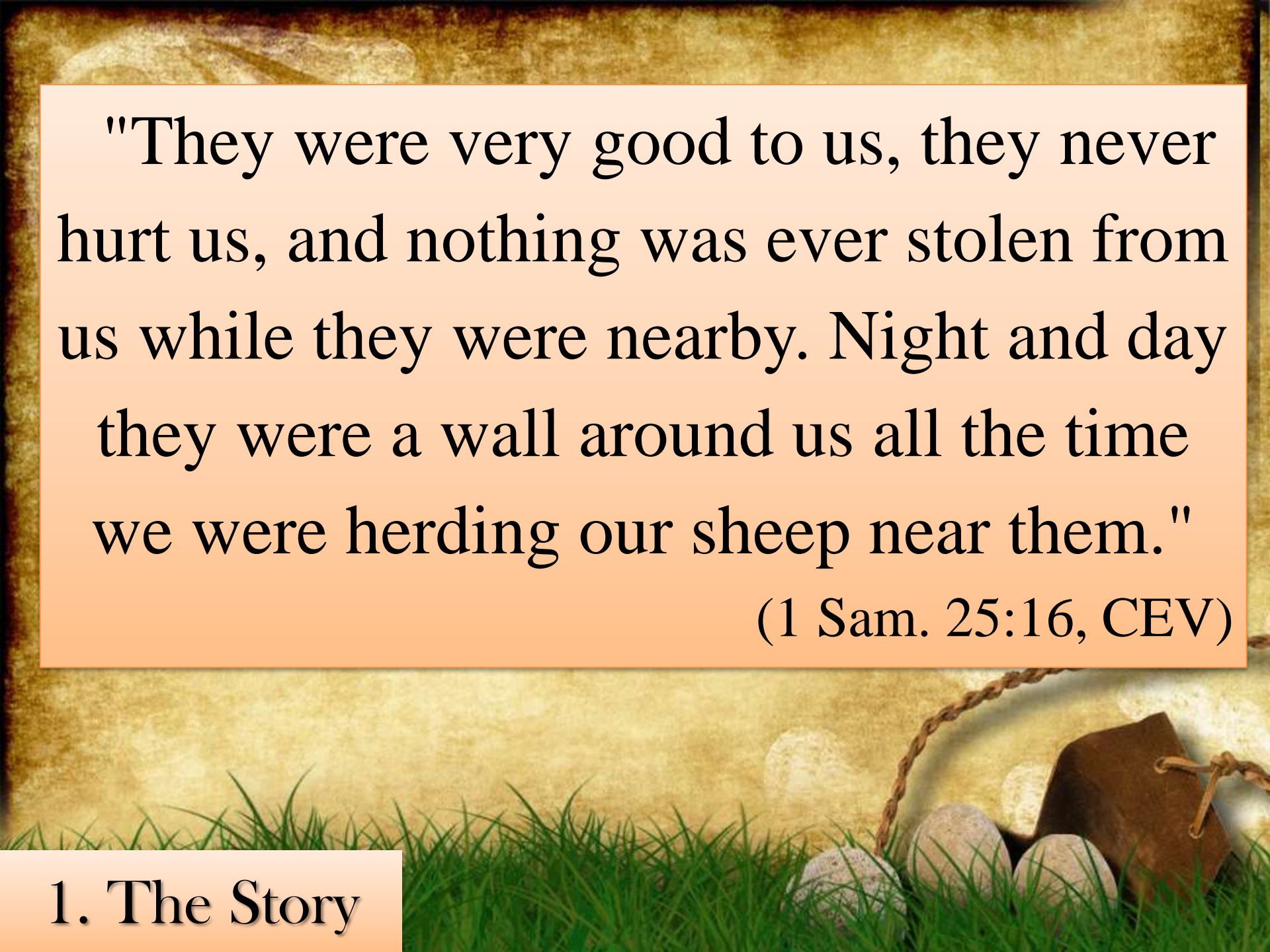
1. The Story



"They were very good to us, they never hurt us, and nothing was ever stolen from us while they were nearby. Night and day they were a wall around us all the time we were herding our sheep near them."

(1 Sam. 25:16, CEV)

1. The Story



“I hope that you and your family are healthy and that all is going well for you. My servants are your servants, and you are like a father to me. This is a day for celebrating, so please be kind and share some of your food with us.”

(1 Sam. 25:6-8, CEV)

1. The Story



Who does this David think he is? That son of Jesse is just one more slave on the run from his master, and there are too many of them these days. What makes you think I would take my bread, my water, and the meat that I've had cooked for my own servants and give it to you?

(1 Sam. 25:10-11, CEV)

1. The Story

“Everybody get
your swords!”

David ordered.

(1 Sam. 25:13, CEV)

1. The Story



"May God strike me and kill me if even one man of his household is still alive tomorrow morning!"

(1 Sam. 25:22, CEV)

1. The Story



"...an intelligent and
beautiful woman,"

(1 Sam. 25:3, CEV)

1. The Story



Abigail acted quickly. She took two hundred loaves of bread, two skins of wine, five dressed sheep, a bushel of roasted grain, a hundred cakes of raisins and two hundred cakes of pressed figs, and loaded them on donkeys.

(1 Sam. 25:18, CEV)

1. The Story



"She fell at his feet and said,
"I accept all blame in this
matter, my lord. Please listen
to what I have to say."

(1 Sam. 25:24, NLT)

1. The Story



David replied to Abigail, “Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, who has sent you to meet me today! Thank God for your good sense! Bless you for keeping me from murder and from carrying out vengeance with my own hands.”

(1 Sam. 25:32-35, NLT)

1. The Story



“For I swear by the Lord, the God of Israel, who has kept me from hurting you, that if you had not hurried out to meet me, not one of Nabal’s men would still be alive tomorrow morning.”

(1 Sam. 25:32-35, NLT)

1. The Story

“For I swear by the Lord, the God of Israel, who has kept me from hurting you, that if you had not hurried out to meet me, not one of Nabal’s men would still be alive tomorrow morning.”

(1 Sam. 25:32-35, NLT)

1. The Story

“Right then and there he had a stroke and fell into a coma. About ten days later God finished him off and he died.”

(1 Samuel 25:37-38, MSG)

1. The Story



II. What Can We Learn From This Story?



facing your
GIANTS

The Strength of a Gentle Heart

2. What Can We Learn from this Story?

"Soft speech can crush
strong opposition,"
(Prov. 25:15, NLT)

A Picture of Our Savior

2. What Can We Learn from this Story?



Parallels Between...

Abigail

Jesus

Parallels Between...

Abigail

Jesus

- ✓ She placed herself between David and Nabal.

Parallels Between...

Abigail

- ✓ She placed herself between David and Nabal.

Jesus

- ✓ Jesus placed himself between God and us.

Parallels Between...

Abigail

- ✓ She placed herself between David and Nabal.
- ✓ Abigail volunteered to be punished for Nabal's sins.

Jesus

- ✓ Jesus placed himself between God and us.

Parallels Between...

Abigail

- ✓ She placed herself between David and Nabal.
- ✓ Abigail volunteered to be punished for Nabal's sins.

Jesus

- ✓ Jesus placed himself between God and us.
- ✓ Jesus allowed heaven to punish Him for yours and mine.

Parallels Between...

Abigail

- ✓ She placed herself between David and Nabal.
- ✓ Abigail volunteered to be punished for Nabal's sins.
- ✓ Abigail turned away the anger of David.

Jesus

- ✓ Jesus placed himself between God and us.
- ✓ Jesus allowed heaven to punish Him for yours and mine.

Parallels Between...

Abigail

- ✓ She placed herself between David and Nabal.
- ✓ Abigail volunteered to be punished for Nabal's sins.
- ✓ Abigail turned away the anger of David.

Jesus

- ✓ Jesus placed himself between God and us.
- ✓ Jesus allowed heaven to punish Him for yours and mine.
- ✓ Jesus turned away the anger of a Holy and righteous God.

"There is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone."

(1 Timothy 2:5-6, NLT)

A Picture of Our Savior



“By our very nature we were subject to God’s anger, just like everyone else. But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!)

(Ephesians 2:4-5, NLT)

Chunkai Prison Camp





Dr. Ernest Gordon

Chunkai Prison Camp



“One evening after work detail, a Japanese guard announced that a shovel was missing. The officer kept the prisoners in formation, insisting that someone had stolen it. Screaming in broken English, he demanded that the guilty man step forward. He shouldered his rifle, ready to kill one prisoner at a time until a confession was made.

-Dr. Ernest Gordon, “To End All Wars”



Dr. Ernest Gordon

Chunkai Prison Camp



A Scottish soldier broke ranks, stood stiffly at attention, and said, "I did it." The officer unleashed his anger and beat the man to death. When the guard was finally exhausted, the prisoners picked up the man's body and their tools and returned to camp.

-Dr. Ernest Gordon, "To End All Wars"



Dr. Ernest Gordon

Chunkai Prison Camp



Later, the shovels were recounted. The Japanese soldier had made a mistake. No shovel was missing after all. The prisoner who stepped forward took the blame to save his friends.

-Dr. Ernest Gordon, "To End All Wars"

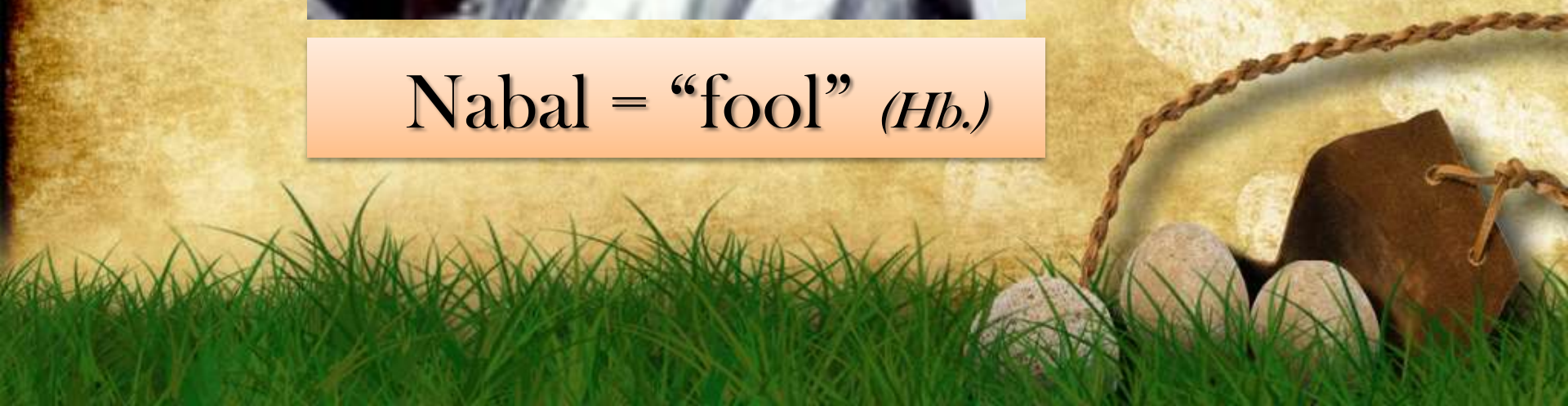
"God has piled all our
sins, everything we've
done wrong, on Him,"

(Isaiah 53:6, MSG)





Nabal = “fool” (*Hb.*)



"Don't let evil get the
best of you; get the best
of evil by doing good."

(Romans 12:21, MSG)



“...have the same
attitude that Christ
Jesus had.”

(Philippians 2:5, NLT)



Beauty and the Beast(s)





FACING YOUR GIANTS