

## 2 Samuel 9

Now David said, "Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?" <sup>2</sup> And *there was* a servant of the house of Saul whose name *was* Ziba. So when they had called him to David, the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" He said, "At your service!" <sup>3</sup> Then the king said, "Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, to whom I may show **the kindness of God**?" And Ziba said to the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan *who is* lame in *his* feet."

<sup>4</sup> So the king said to him, "Where *is* he?" And Ziba said to the king, "Indeed he *is* in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, in Lo Debar." <sup>5</sup> Then King David sent and brought him out of the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, from Lo Debar. <sup>6</sup> Now when Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, had come to David, he fell on his face and prostrated himself. Then David said, "Mephibosheth?" And he answered, "Here is your servant!"

<sup>7</sup> So David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan your father's sake, and will restore to you all the land of Saul your grandfather; and you shall eat bread at my table continually." <sup>8</sup> Then he bowed himself, and said, "What *is* your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?" <sup>9</sup> And the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "I have given to your master's son all that belonged to Saul and to all his house.

<sup>10</sup> You therefore, and your sons and your servants, shall work the land for him, and you shall bring in *the harvest*, that your master's son may have food to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's son shall eat bread at my table always." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants. <sup>11</sup> Then Ziba said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king has commanded his servant, so will your servant do." "As for Mephibosheth," *said the king*, "he shall eat at my table like one of the king's sons."

<sup>12</sup> Mephibosheth had a young son whose name was Micha. And all who dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants of Mephibosheth. <sup>13</sup> So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem, for he ate continually at the king's table. And he was lame in both his feet

1. A beautiful hidden Gem in the O.T shows us the kindness & Grace of God
2. In a world that's filled with tragic news, it good to hear good news
  - a. One that has kindness, mercy and grace.
  - b. The Kindness of the Great King Toward the Crippled prince
  - c. This is our story of redemption
3. Speaking on such a topic is both beautiful & challenging
4. **Tozer:** I can no more do justice to this awesome and wonder-filled topic than a child can grasp a star. Still, by reaching toward the star the child may call attention to it and even indicate the direction one must look to see it. And so, I stretch my heart toward the high, shining love of God so that we may be encouraged to look up and have hope."

5. David has been king for about 15 years
  - a. It's customary to kill all of the offspring of the previous dynasty
  - b. David had more reason to kill the offspring for the bad treatment of Saul
  - c. Mercy say's spare and show him kindness
    - i. Mercy triumphs over justice
6. Long before becoming a king, David was a close friend to Jonathan
  - a. That he would be kind to Jonathans offspring and not harm them
  - b. One day the news arrived that King Saul and his son were killed in battle
  - c. Mephibosheth was only 5 and was dropped on the steps and became crippled
  - d. Believing his life was in danger, he decided to hide in Lo Debar
  - e. He grew and had his own family but remained lame in his feet
    - i. Mephibosheth = living shame

ii. Machir = salesman / deceiver

iii. Lo Debar = No pasture, barren field

f. So we have the Crippled prince living in shame in the house of the deceiver in a land with no pasture

g. What a picture of humanity

h. We also belonged to the royal line in Adam but were crippled by his fall

## **I. Calling**

## **II. Covering**

### **I. Calling:**

**1. Now David said...**

**2. David is the one who initiated the seeking**

a. A picture of God who is looking for the lost

- b. It was God who sought out Abraham in Ur,
  - i. Jacob at Bethel,
  - ii. Moses in Midian,
  - iii. Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus,... (**A.W. Pink**)

- iv. **He seeks us...**

- a. Mephibosheth must have thought, there goes my head...
  - i. Some people think that God is seeking vengeance

- b. This is a call of mercy**

### **3. There is a reason for the call**

- i. I'm calling you out of Lo Debar**

- 1. This is the place of deception

- a. You believed a lie about who the King is and who you are

- i. The king is going to kill me - **wrong**

ii. I'm worthless - **Lie**

b. A land without sustenance

c. A place of shame, hiding, and without any Manna from heaven

d. That's no way for a prince or princess to live

e. I'm sending messengers to send you a personal invitation

a. Before Jonathan had children, he mentioned them to David

i. **Jonathan = Jehovah has given**

ii. A conversation about you happened before you were born.

iii. **Jeremiah 1:5** Before I formed you in the womb I knew you...

iv. **Psalms 139:13** For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb

v. **Isaiah 49:1** The Lord has called Me from the womb; From the matrix of My mother He has made mention of My name

i. **You are not an accident**

**1. Mephibosheth must have believed that his whole life is one big accident**

**2. A series of bad events and despair**

ii. The Father made a covenant with the Son long before You arrived

iii. Just like David's covenant with Jonathan pertaining to his offspring

**3. You bring joy to God by being here**

4. As long as you belong to Christ, God delights in you

ii. **Do not be afraid; I will show you kindness**

1. For every soul that is afraid of God or His judgment, this is for you

2. David is showing mercy because of a person that was dear to him

3. David loved Jonathan
4. God has mercy on us because Loves His Son Jesus who is near and dear to Him
5. We're accepted in the beloved
  - a. This has nothing to do with feelings; David wasn't having a good day
  - b. **A covenant was made** (1 Samuel 20:14-17)
  - c. Here God made a covenant with Christ for salvation of humanity
  - d. **Heb 13:20** Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant
  - e. **Eph 2:7** the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
  - f. **Luke 12:32** "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.



### **iii. To restore what belongs to you**

1. Our God is a God of restoration
2. God's heart is one of love as He came seeking after us
3. I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten (Joel 2:25)
  - a. All of those wasted years in Lo Debar
  - b. Restore your position as royalty
  - c. Restore the land that was never claimed
  - d. **Restore the relationship with God and others**
    - i. Restore your family
    - ii. Restore Joy
    - iii. Restore peace
    - iv. Restore your victory

4. Just as when Jesus meets the disciples on the sea of Galilee and restores them there

#### **iv. To give you a seat at my table to eat continually**

- i. Living in Jerusalem; the city of peace & fellowship w/ God
  - ii. To feast on my table continually
- a. **1 John 3:1** See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are

## **II. Covering:**

### **1. Every grand banquet table has a table cloth**

- a. This is where Mephibosheth will be covered
- b. But before covering him, David had Mephibosheth carried
  - i. Mephibosheth could not get to the table on his own
  - ii. He needed someone to carry him

- iii. This needs some humility; having another carry you especially as others are watching
- iv. When my father carried me in school
- v. **As long as I refuse to admit my true condition, my situation will not change**
- vi. God wants to carry me into His presence, I can't get there on my own
- vii. **Exodus 19:4** You saw what I did to the Egyptians, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself

2. David never mentions the feet of Mephibosheth - It's all been covered

3. Vs. 8 "What *is* your servant, that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?"

4. **David doesn't answer that question**

b. It's part of that amazing grace that keeps the believers humble and filled with wonder

i. His covering consoles us in our vulnerable areas

1. Our weaknesses don't immediately disappear
  2. Certain areas may take time to heal
- ii. The healed part becomes stronger
- iii. Your difficulty will help others in their faith
  1. Not because of your own strength, but because of your faith in the King
5. It's at the table where you are covered and equal with all the sons of the king
6. At the king's table we dine and enjoy the presence of the king and his children
7. We're invited to live here and feast here, not simply visit occasionally
8. Are you burdened because you're always looking at your flaws and shortcomings?
  - c. We don't have to remain in that condition.

d. Jesus was broken so we can be made whole

e. May we accept the king's invitation

f. **1 John 3:1** Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

9. The King is calling you today

10. He wants to cover you

**1. David's grace to Mephibosheth is also a pattern for us in serving and ministering to others. We ...[may be] David.**

a. We should seek out our enemies and seek to bless them.

b. We should look for the poor, weak, lame, and hidden to bless them.

c. We should bless others when they don't deserve it, and bless them more than they deserve.

d. We should bless others for the sake of someone else... (**Guzik**)

