Mephibosheth

William Stewart · 2 Samuel 9:1–13

INTRODUCTION

- I particularly enjoy doing character studies of the uncommon or unfamiliar people in the Bible.
- Our focus today is going to be on one of those lesser known people in the Bible, a young man by the name of Mephibosheth.

1 A Son of Jonathan, Lame in His Feet

2 Samuel 4:4

- Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son who was lame in his feet.
- He was five years old when his father Jonathan and his grandfather Saul died in battle.
- His nurse, fearing that David would seek to destroy the child, took him up and rushed away in order to flee with him.
- Even if he had known about him, he would not have sought to destroy him, but rather he would have sought to comfort him.

2 Kindness for Jonathan's Sake

2 Samuel 9:1; 1 Samuel 18:1–4

- Is there still anyone who is left of the house of Saul that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?
- The soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.
- You shall not cut off your kindness from my house forever. No, not when the Lord has cut off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth.
- Having acknowledged the goodness of God and God providing this for him, then David thinks back to this covenant he had made with his good friend Jonathan.

3 Living in Lo Debar: No Pasture, No Promise

- He is living in another man's house in a foreign area to him.
- Him being lame in his feet would be a constant reminder of the failure of his grandfather and the failure of his family.
- Mephibosheth's address, were it not for the wickedness of Saul, would be very different. He would be living in the king's palace.
- So here he is, the dispeller of shame, who lives in a merchant's house and lives in a place that reveals to him day after day, sir, you have no inheritance.

4 Do Not Fear: Such a Dead Dog as I

2 Samuel 9:7–8; 1 Samuel 17:43

- 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.
- He grew up believing that if David finds you, he will destroy you. And now David has found him.
- What is your servant that you should look upon such a dead dog as I?
- Whether he deserves it or not, David's going to do it. Because David loved Jonathan. And David keeps his word.

5 Spiritually Infirm, Dead in Sin

Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1–2; Ephesians 2:1–3

- I see a type in Mephibosheth. He is a picture of our salvation.
- We are all lame, not physically, but spiritually. We are all spiritually infirm individuals, dead in sin.
- Your sins have separated you from your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he will not hear you.
- We made ourselves dead dogs before God. We made ourselves repulsive before the Lord because of our sin.

6 Made to Sit at the King's Table

Ephesians 2:12–13; John 6:35; Ephesians 2:6–7

- But now in Christ Jesus, you who once were afar off, have been brought near by the blood of Christ.
- He would sit at the table like one of the king's sons. The image is that of adoption, that he was brought into the family of David.
- He has raised us up together and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.
- He has heaven in store for us, where we will be brought into his presence for eternity.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Don't leave what Jesus has done for you unreceived. He seeks for all of us to come to Him. He wants all of us to be in heaven.**

MY NOTES