

THE ELEVATION OF A LOSER

2 Samuel 9

I. David Makes a Promise (1 Samuel 20:14-17; 24:20-22)

A. Setting: David and Jonathan are trying to determine the severity of Saul’s intentions to kill David.

B. The Promise

1. Content: David promised that when God raised him up to reign over Israel, he would not execute Jonathan or his descendants; rather, he would treat them with _____.
2. Basis: _____
3. Seal: A _____ (a solemn, sacred agreement, in which persons bind themselves to certain obligations, swearing an oath and signifying in a ceremony the total commitment to fulfill the obligations, under the watchful eye of God.)

II. David Keeps His Promise (2 Sam. 9:1-13)

A. Setting: After the deaths of Saul and Jonathan at the hands of the Philistines (1 Samuel 31), David becomes king of Israel and subdues all of her enemies (2 Samuel 1-8).

B. David determines to keep his promise

1. His inquiry (9:1)
2. The outcome: the surfacing of Mephibosheth (9:2-5; 4:4)

C. David elevates Mephibosheth (9:8-13)

1. Mephibosheth’s expectation:
2. David’s kindness
 - a. He regarded Mephibosheth as a _____
 - b. He addressed his _____ need
 - c. He restored his _____
 - d. He invited him to eat at his table “always” – like one of the king’s _____
 - e. He brought Mephibosheth from a place of bitterness and shame to a place of security and high _____.

III. David Models the Heart of God

A. What is God like?

1. An OT revelation (Exodus 33-34)
2. A NT elaboration (Ephesians 2:4-7)

B. My name is Mephibosheth – a picture of God’s kindness to us.

1. Like Adam, Mephibosheth once knew what it was like to be healthy and to be in a close _____ with the King.
2. Like Adam, Mephibosheth suffered a _____ that rendered him a life-long invalid.
3. As David showed grace to Mephibosheth out of love for Jonathan, so God shows grace to me for the sake of _____.
4. As David’s kindness was sealed by a covenant with Jonathan, so our salvation is secured by God’s covenant sealed by the _____ of Christ.
5. Like Mephibosheth, I have nothing, deserve nothing, can _____ nothing to God.
6. As David elevated Mephibosheth from a place of barrenness to a place of honor, so God has restored me to the _____ for which I was designed in Adam.
7. As Mephibosheth was continually reminded of his condition by his lameness, my on-going struggle with _____ (and its consequences) reminds me that I am the recipient of pure grace.
8. As David treated Mephibosheth as one of his own sons, I have been _____ into the family of God.

IV. Postscript: David’s Kindness is Tested

- A. The accusation by Ziba (2 Sam. 16:1-4)
- B. The rebuttal by Mephibosheth (2 Sam. 19:24-30)

V. Concluding Principles:

1. As a recipient of God’s grace, I must learn to _____ myself as a child of God and live out that _____ with increasing consistency.
2. The blessings of God are not given simply for us to enjoy. They are given for us to _____ in service to God for the sake of others (Matthew 10:8; 1 Peter 4:10; Eph. 4:28).