

A marble bust of a man with curly hair, likely Mephibosheth, set against a background of cracked, aged parchment. The bust is centered and slightly to the left. The text is overlaid on the bust's face.

The “Me” in Mephibosheth

In a world of much words,
words don't count for much.

God owes us **nothing**.

2 Samuel 9: David asked, “Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”

2 Now there was a servant of Saul’s household named Ziba. They summoned him to appear before David, and the king said to him, “Are you Ziba?” “At your service,” he replied. 3 The king asked, “Is there no one still alive from the house of Saul to whom I can show God’s kindness?”

2 Samuel 9: Ziba answered the king, “There is still a son of Jonathan; he is lame in both feet.”

4 “Where is he?” the king asked. Ziba answered, “He is at the house of Makir son of Ammiel in Lo Debar.” 5 So King David had him brought from Lo Debar, from the house of Makir son of Ammiel.

6 When Mephibosheth son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, came to David, he bowed down to pay him

2 Samuel 9: honor. David said, “Mephibosheth!”
“At your service,” he replied.

7 “Don’t be afraid,” David said to him, “for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan. I will restore to you all the land that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.”

First “easy” sermon:

David is being magnanimous.

Second “easy” sermon:

The importance of “covenant”

David practices “covenant loyalty” (hesed)

A firm place to stand
Sense of security, privilege, &
wonder

9:1 “Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show **kindness (hesed)**...”

9: 3 “Is there no one still alive from the house of Saul to whom I can show God’s **kindness (hesed)**?”

9:7 I will surely show you **kindness (hesed)**

“Hesed” (kindness)

Devoted love promised in a covenant. Love that is willing to commit itself to another by promise.

1 Samuel 20: 14 But show me unfailing **kindness** like the Lord's **kindness** as long as I live, so that I may not be killed, 15 and do not ever cut off your **kindness** from my family—not even when the Lord has cut off every one of David's enemies from the face of the earth.”

In covenant, the promise made
in the past
directs fidelity in the present.



“Do you think I’ll
love you more
because of a piece of
paper?”

-Out of Africa

Covenant does not regulate
intensity.

It regulates security.

Love that is truly love binds
itself so that
the other may stand secure in
that love.

2 Samuel 9: 8 Mephibosheth bowed down and said, “What is your servant, that you should notice a dead dog like me?”

Mephibosheth was more than
Jonatha's son.

He was an enemy to the crown (of
David)

2 Samuel 9: 9 Then the king summoned Ziba, Saul's steward, and said to him, "I have given your master's grandson everything that belonged to Saul and his family. 10 You and your sons and your servants are to farm the land for him and bring in the crops, so that your master's grandson may be provided for. And Mephibosheth, grandson of your master, will always eat at my table." (Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.)

David not only honors the covenant, he goes well beyond its obligations.

9:7 “Don’t be afraid,” (Protection) I will restore to you all the land (Provision) that belonged to your grandfather Saul, and you will always eat at my table.” (Position)

Romans 5: 10 For if, while we were God's enemies...

God should have no business
giving us anything.

Yet, He gives us everything
(protection, provision, position)!

John 1: 16 Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given.

John 6: 35 Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Romans 8: 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

2 Samuel 9: David asked, “Is there anyone still left of the house of Saul to whom I can show kindness for Jonathan’s sake?”

Why would David do something so foolish with Mephibosheth?

Why would David do something so foolish with Mephibosheth?

Because his covenant wasn't with Mephibosheth. It was with Jonathan

Why would God do something so
foolish with us?

Why would God do something so
foolish with us?

Though God's covenant is with us,
He keeps it for Jesus' sake.

On account of God's love for
Jesus,
God's love is bound to us.

Romans 5: For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

2 Samuel 9: 11 Then Ziba said to the king, “Your servant will do whatever my lord the king commands his servant to do.” So Mephibosheth ate at David’s table like one of the king’s sons.

2 Samuel 9: 12 Mephibosheth had a young son named Mika, and all the members of Ziba's household were servants of Mephibosheth.

13 And Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, because he always **ate at the king's table**; he was lame in both feet.

Revelation 19: 6 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting:

“Hallelujah!

For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

7 Let us rejoice and be glad
and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready.

Revelation 19: 8 Fine linen, bright and clean,
was given her to wear.”

(Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God’s
holy people.)

9 Then the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed
are those who are invited to **the wedding supper of
the Lamb!**” And he added, “These are the true
words of God.”

On account of God's love for
Jesus,
we get to eat at the King's
table!

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