

# 2 Samuel 16:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then said the king to Ziba, Behold, thine are all that pertained unto Mephibosheth. And Ziba said, I humbly beseech thee that I may find grace in thy sight, my lord, O king.

## Analysis

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**Then said the king to Ziba, Behold, thine are all that pertained unto Mephibosheth. And Ziba said, I humbly beseech thee that I may find grace in thy sight, my lord, O king.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of David's Humiliation, emphasizing suffering within God's sovereignty. David's humiliation through Shimei's cursing and Ziba's deception tests his faith in God's sovereignty. His refusal to punish Shimei demonstrates trust that God controls even unjust accusations. Ahithophel's counsel and Absalom's public sin with David's concubines fulfill Nathan's prophecy (12:11-12). Theological themes include suffering within God's sovereign plan, responding to unjust accusations with faith, and the full exposure of hidden sin.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 16 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding suffering within God's sovereignty provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed

significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of suffering within God's sovereignty?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

## Interlinear Text

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אָפּ רַכּ לְ לֵב הָיָה צִיָּבָה הַמֶּלֶךְ: וַיֹּאמֶר

**Then said**

H559

**O king**

H4428

**And Ziba**

H6717

H2009

H0

H3605

H834

לִמְפִּיבֹשֶׁת

**Behold thine are all that pertained unto Mephibosheth**

H4648

וַיֹּאמֶר צִיָּבָה

**Then said**

H559

**And Ziba**

H6717

הַשְׁתַּחֲוִי יְיָ

**I humbly**

H7812

אֲמַצָּא

**beseech thee that I may find**

H4672

חַן

**grace**

H2580

בְּעֵינֶיךָ

**in thy sight**

H5869

אֲדֹנָי

**my lord**

H113

הַמֶּלֶךְ:

**O king**

H4428

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 18:13** (Parallel theme): He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.

**Proverbs 18:17** (Parallel theme): He that is first in his own cause seemeth just; but his neighbour cometh and searcheth him.

**Proverbs 19:2** (Parallel theme): Also, that the soul be without knowledge, it is not good; and he that hasteth with his feet sinneth.

**Exodus 23:8** (Parallel theme): And thou shalt take no gift: for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous.

**Deuteronomy 19:15** (Parallel theme): One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established.