

# 2 Samuel 9:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread alway at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

## Analysis

**Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread alway at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Kindness to Mephibosheth, emphasizing covenant faithfulness, grace. David's kindness to Mephibosheth illustrates chesed (חסד, covenant faithfulness/loyal love). This grace shown to Jonathan's crippled son demonstrates covenant loyalty transcending political expedience. The narrative foreshadows God's grace toward spiritually crippled humanity. Cross-references to David and Jonathan's covenant (1 Samuel 18:3, 20:14-17) and New Testament grace themes enrich understanding.

## Historical Context

The historical setting of 2 Samuel 9 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 covenant faithfulness, grace 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

---

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

---

1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of covenant faithfulness, grace?
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

---

בָּנִים תִּעֲבֹדְךָ אֶת־הָאָדָם  
Thou therefore and thy sons  
H1121

שְׁאֵלָתְךָ תִּשְׁאַלְתָּה  
H859

תְּלַמֵּדְךָ תִּתְלַמֵּד  
H127

תְּלַמֵּדְךָ תִּתְלַמֵּד  
H853

תְּלַמֵּדְךָ תִּתְלַמֵּד  
H0

תְּלַמֵּדְךָ תִּתְלַמֵּד  
H5647

תְּלַמֵּדְךָ תִּתְלַמֵּד  
shall till

בָּנִים תִּעֲבֹדְךָ אֶת־הָאָדָם  
Thou therefore and thy sons  
H1121

עֲבָדִים  
H1961

וְיִבְרְכֶנּוּ  
H935

וְיִבְרְכֶנּוּ  
H5650

וְיִבְרְכֶנּוּ  
and thy servants

וְמַפְרִיבְךָ שְׁתַּתְּ  
but Mephibosheth  
H4648

וְאָכַלְתָּ  
H398

וְאָכַלְתָּ  
bread  
H3899

וְאָכַלְתָּ  
in the fruits that thy master's  
H113

תִּתְמַצֵּא יְמֵינְךָ  
alway  
H8548

תִּתְמַצֵּא יְמֵינְךָ  
H398

תִּתְמַצֵּא יְמֵינְךָ  
Thou therefore and thy sons  
H1121

תִּתְמַצֵּא יְמֵינְךָ  
in the fruits that thy master's  
H113

עַל־צִבְבּוֹתְךָ  
H2568

וְלֹא־צִבּוֹתְךָ  
had fifteen  
H6717

שְׁלַחְנָתְךָ  
at my table  
H7979

שְׁלַחְנָתְךָ  
bread  
H5921

עֲבָדִים  
H5650

וְעַשְׂרֵת יְמֵינְךָ  
H6242

וְעַשְׂרֵת יְמֵינְךָ  
and twenty  
H1121

וְעַשְׂרֵת יְמֵינְךָ  
Thou therefore and thy sons

## Additional Cross-References

---

**2 Samuel 9:7** (Parallel theme): And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

**2 Samuel 19:28** (Parallel theme): For all of my father's house were but dead men before my lord the king: yet didst thou set thy servant among them that did eat at thine own table. What right therefore have I yet to cry any more unto the king?

**Luke 14:15** (Parallel theme): And when one of them that sat at meat with him heard these things, he said unto him, Blessed is he that shall eat bread in the kingdom of God.

**2 Kings 25:29** (Parallel theme): And changed his prison garments: and he did eat bread continually before him all the days of his life.

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)