

# 2 Samuel 9:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!

## Analysis

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**Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Kindness to Mephibosheth, emphasizing covenant faithfulness, grace. David's kindness to Mephibosheth illustrates chesed (חֶסֶד, 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

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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

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

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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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

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וַיָּבֹא	מִפִּיבֹשֶׁת	בֶּן	יְהוֹנָתָן	בֶּן	שָׁאוּל	אֶל	דָּוִד
was come	Mephibosheth	the son	of Jonathan	the son	of Saul	H413	And David
H935	H4648	H1121	H3083	H1121	H7586		H1732
עָלָּה	פָּנָיו	וַשְׁתַּחֲוֶה	וַיֹּאמֶר	דָּוִד			
he fell	on his face	and did reverence	And he answered	And David			
H5307	H5921	H6440	H7812	H559			H1732
מִפִּיבֹשֶׁת	וַיֹּאמֶר	הִנֵּה	עַבְדְּךָ				
Mephibosheth	And he answered	H2009	Behold thy servant				
H4648	H559		H5650				

## Additional Cross-References

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**1 Chronicles 8:34** (Parallel theme): And the son of Jonathan was Merib-baal; and Merib-baal begat Micah.

**1 Chronicles 9:40** (Parallel theme): And the son of Jonathan was Merib-baal: and Merib-baal begat Micah.

**2 Samuel 16:4** (Parallel theme): 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.

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