

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

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 (תּוֹדָה, 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

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

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

וְיָבֹא	מִפִּיבְשֵׁת	בֶּן	יְהוֹנָתָן	בֶּן	שָׁאוֹל	אֶל	וְיַד	וְיַד
was come	Mephibosheth	the son	of Jonathan	the son	of Saul	And David		
H935	H4648	H1121	H3083	H1121	H7586	H413		

וַיַּעַל	וְיֹאמֶר	וְיִשְׁתַּחַוו	וְיִתְּפַלֵּל	וְיִדְבַּךְ	וְיִשְׁאַל	וְיִשְׁאַל
he fell	on his face	and did reverence	And he answered	And he answered	And David	And David
H5307	H5921	H6440	H7812	H559		H1732

מִפִּיבְשֵׁת	וְיִאמֶר	הִנֵּה	עֲבָדֶךָ
Mephibosheth	And he answered	H2009	Behold thy servant
H4648	H559		H5650

Additional Cross-References

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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