

Made a Son of the King



II Samuel 4:4 and 9:1-13

Introduction: Saul, king of Israel & Son, Jonathan

If something were to happen to King Saul, his son, Jonathan, would become king. But what if something happened to both Saul and Jonathan? Jonathan just happened to have a son who was five years old, his name was, Me-Phib-O-Sheth.

The Philistines had entered the country and were fighting Israel. King Saul was in trouble. He had disobeyed God and God was NOT helping Saul.

Saul is not the only one who disobeys God (Romans 3:23, who has sinned? ALL- Give examples of sin that kids would commit or one you were guilty of as a kid and then talk about punishment for sin).

I Samuel 13:13-14; 15:26-29

Saul was in big trouble with God because of his disobedience. God had even told him that his family would not reign over Israel.

The battle was fierce

- Jonathan was killed
- The archers shot and killed King Saul and he died.

II Samuel 4:4

The nurse who took care of Mephibosheth, grabbed him and ran. She said, "We've got to get out of here. The new king will want all of Saul's family killed; we've got to hide you away! Run!"

As they were running, Mephibosheth fell and became CRIPPLED - "NOT FAIR!" Life seems like it is not fair sometimes. Does that mean that God does not love you?

God DOES love you. He says in His word that He loves you with a love that lasts forever. He knows all about you and loves you.

God loved Mephibosheth even though things seemed unfair.

A new king was crowned; his name was David. King David honored and obeyed God (everyone cheer). The Lord was with him when he fought the Philistines. He won great victories.

II Samuel 9:1 - One day David asked, "Is there anyone left in King Saul's family? "

II Samuel 9:3 - A servant knew of one, Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth.

II Samuel 9:5 - "Bring him here," (yikes). He was no longer a boy but a man with a boy of his own.

II Samuel 9:6 -

David: "Are you Mephibosheth?"

Mephibosheth: "Yes" (Shaking with fear).

David: "Jonathan's son?"

Mephibosheth: "YAA Yes" (Shaking with fear).

David: "Saul's grandson?"

Mephibosheth: "Oh, I am in so much trouble."

II Samuel 9:7 - "You know that field that used to be your grandfather's?" I am sure that Mephibosheth thought, "I'm going to be buried... in my grandfather's field." But David said, "I'm going to give it to you."

I'm sure Mephibosheth was shocked and thought, "I'm going to be dead," but now he was the owner of his own field. Mephibosheth was given what he did not deserve. According to the law of that day, David had the right to destroy Mephibosheth, and he certainly did not have to give him any land. That reminds me of what God does for us. My Bible tells me that because of sin I

deserve death (Romans 3:23). We deserve to be punished in hell and separated from God forever. But my Bible tells me, "but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). Jesus took the punishment we deserve when He died on the cross, was buried in the tomb, and rose again from the dead. Jesus did for us what we did not deserve. David did for Mephibosheth what he did not deserve.

II Samuel 9:10 - Not only that, but David also said, "Mephibosheth, I want you to eat always at my table with me and my sons."

II Samuel 9:11 - That's what God does for you and me. In a sense Mephibosheth was, (Fill in), **MADE A SON OF THE KING** . . . God makes us sons of the king.

That is what Jesus does for us. The Apostle Paul, one of Jesus' followers, wrote about what Jesus did for us; he said, "So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God" (Galatians 4:7). Another one of Jesus' followers, the Apostle John, wrote, "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12).

God gives us what we do not deserve:

- If we know and confess we've sinned.
- If we believe what God's Word says - Jesus died and arose.
- We can receive Him - believe in His name and become God's child (John 1:12).
- Not only does God make us His child but Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you" (John 14:2). David gave Mephibosheth a field. God gives His adopted children a place in His kingdom in heaven.

- Not only does He forgive our sin and make us a place in heaven but we will eat at His banquet table with the King and His sons.

Invitation: How about you?