

## A Covenant Kept

2 Samuel 9:1-13

Chapters 5-10 – 7 Major Events (Willis):

- Conquest of Jerusalem – Chapter 5
- 2 victories over Philistines – Chapter 5
- Bringing Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem – Chapter 6
- God's prophecy that of D's posterity one would arise to build God a 'house' – Chapter 7
- D's victories – Chapter 8
- **D's kindness to the son of Jonathan**
- Victories over Ammonites & Syrians

### 1. Covenant – v. 1-5

- 1: events of this chapter occur after a gap from Ch. 4; Mephibosheth was 5 in Ch. 4, now grown, married, and had a son, v. 12.
- For Jonathan's sake: made when both were young, 1S 20:14-17.
- 2: apparently, no one could answer his question. Ziba's closeness to Saul could help answer
- 3: Mephibosheth's real name is Meribbaal, 1 Chr. 8:34
- 4: Lo-debar: E of Jordan River not far from Ishbosheth's capital. Ammiel, 1C 3:5, father of Bathshua (Bathsheba). Machir would become D's brother-in-law. He was rich and loved S's family so much he took & cared for Mephibosheth; later financially help D in war.
- 5: custom was for new king to enslave former king's family.
- To those of S's household, d's promise of goodwill might sound like what Herod said to the wisemen, Mt. 2:8.

### 2. Meeting – v. 6-13

- 6: customary way of showing respect & submission to ancient kings; D must have sensed fear in Mephibosheth's heart.
- 7: Saul – grandfather
- 8: dead dog: hyperbole and self-derogation was characteristic of Orientals
- D uses similar language in 1S 24:14
- 11: seize of estate is indicated by the number of men required to cultivate it; wealth brought to Mephibosheth because he had family to support; through son Micah the family line survives to captivity.
- 11: Ziba appears reluctant about his new arrangement – he acts treacherously during Absalom's rebellion.

- FYI: 2 of Saul's sons were names Mephibosheth (Meribbaal): 1] this one 2] 2S 21:7-9, executed by D to avenge S's heartless slaughter of the Gibeonites.
- 13: "so" – in this manner – must have needed a large palace to accommodate a large household.

**Lessons:**

1. D made a promise years before to his best friend. Today, when we make a promise, we should always keep it.
2. Mephibosheth might have been fearful for his life as D was approaching – yet, he had nothing to worry about.
3. Sinners, like Mephibosheth, have been crippled by the "fall" in Eden. God has honored and blessed us with the promise of Eternal Life and inviting us to a feast at His Table in His Kingdom perpetually.

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