

2 Samuel 9 - We are Mephibosheth

Intro - Last night was the traditional night where people put on masks and dress their kids up as something other than themselves and send them out door to door to ask for candy from strangers ☺. I mention this masquerade because often people come to church the same way - covering who they are.

We do come to church today for a treat - Lord's Table - commanded to do often - proclaim death until.- prepare ourselves. I don't want us to put a mask on but I do want us to identify with Mephibosh- a privileged eater at the king's table. He is a person in scripture (funny name) was born in the wrong family (royal), he was a cripple, the law forbade cripples from coming before the King; yet he ate at the king's table out of a favor to someone else. Mephib knew his unworthiness and we are Mephibosheth if we are to eat this Supper. So let's take off the masks and embrace our worthlessness and be a Mephib. In doing so we will find ourselves invited and eating at The King's Table in a most privileged position.

Born in the Wrong Family

1. 2 Samuel 9:1a
 - a. Grandson of Saul (rejected king) who was the enemy of David the anointed king
2. Mephib was a royal decent but it was the wrong family
 - a. Saul and his family were rejected by God because of Saul's sin (sins of the fathers)
3. Ever felt handicapped because of your heritage?

Crippled from Childhood

- Mephib was handicapped literally and physically
 - o 2 Samuel 4:4
- The day his father and grandfather were killed in battle Mephib's life became in danger
 - o Peaceful transitions of power are not the norm
- Mephib's nurse was hurrying him to safety when the 5 year old had an accident
 - o Crippled at 5 until the day he died

Law stood against him

1. Heritage and handicaps weren't Mephib's only problems - the law was against him
 - a. 2 Samuel 5:8
 - b. When David was conquering Jerusalem the inhabitants mocked him - 2 Samuel 5:6
2. Mount Zion, the city of David, the palace - was forbidden to the lame. Cripples couldn't come
 - a. No sacrifices with a defect. (Mal. 1:8) Must be without spot or blemish
 - i. No persons with a defect Lev. 21:18-23
 - b. Mephib had defects and lived in Lo Debar (2 Sam. 9:5) other side of the Jordan/tracks

The King wanted to be Kind

- 2 Samuel 9:3
 - David wanted to show God's kindness to the family of his enemy who tried to kill him
 - God's kindness is a kindness to an enemy Matt. 5:43-48
- David's kindness to Saul's house was for Jonathan's sake 2 Samuel 9:1
 - There was ONE born in the house of David's enemy that was David's friend
 - David made a covenant with Jonathan and he was going to keep that promise
- Mephib knew that David's kindness wasn't because of Mephib. it was a favor because of another
 - 2 Samuel 9:8 Mephib knew he was but a dead dog
 - Mephib was Jonathan's beneficiary. He benefited because Jonathan was the king's friend

He ate at the king's table

2 Samuel 9:13 Mephib was a royal but was born in the wrong family, he was a cripple and cripples were not allowed in the king's presence. His heritage and his handicap were against him – so was the law. But the king wanted to be kind to the family of his great enemy all because there was one great friend among them. So Mephib, dead dog as he was, benefited because of another and got to reside in the king's palace and eat at the king's table just like one of the king's sons - 2 Samuel 9:11b

Mephib was worthless but made worthy by another and so became a privileged eater at the king's table

We are Mephiboseth

1. Born into the wrong family - human family
 - a. Royal – made in God's image but that image was defaced because of our sin
 - b. Born children of wrath (Eph. 2) enemies by birth after our father the devil (John 8)
2. Crippled from childhood
 - a. Sinners by birth and choice Go astray from childhood
3. The Law stands against us
 - a. Fallen short of His glory none with defect can enter
4. The King wanted to be kind to His enemies
 - a. Nothing in us to motivate God to be attracted to us. Deut. 7:7-8; 9:6
 - i. We are but dead dogs outcast on the other side of the Jordan
 - ii. God is kind to His enemies
 - b. But there was ONE born in the house of humans (enemies)- He is God's friend - Jesus
 - i. Because of Him God is kind to us Gal. 4:4-5 Romans 5:10
 - ii. We are Jesus' beneficiaries – we benefit because of HIM
5. We get to eat at the King's table as one of the King's sons
 - a. When we come to the Table take off the masks and no masquerade. Embrace your inner Mephib. Recognize that it is nothing about us but all about ANOTHER.