**Invited To The King’s Table!**

Prepared by Nathan Morrison for Sunday July 22nd, 2018

Text: II Sam. 9:1-13

Intro

1. The kingdom of Israel was torn from the house of Saul due to Saul’s sins *(I Sam. 13:14; 15:24-29)* and God said it would pass to a “man after His own heart.”
2. David was that man and was anointed king in *I Sam. 16:12-13.* Saul knew it, and Jonathan knew it. While Saul distressed over Jonathan’s not being king, it did not bother Jonathan.
3. Jonathan loved David and was ready to accept 2nd place at his side *(I Sam. 20:17; 23:17).*
4. He made three covenants with David:
   1. *I Sam 18:1-4:* Made a covenant *(specifics not recorded)* and gave David his battle gear.
   2. *I Sam 20:12-17:* He knew David would be king and asked for his family to be treated kindly forever *(Ancient practice was to wipe out family of previous king).*
   3. *I Sam 23:16-18:* He again affirms that David will be king and he will be next to him. This was in the wilderness of Ziph where Jonathan came to comfort and encourage David on his run from Saul. They didn’t know it but it would be the last time they saw each other in this life.
5. Jonathan died with his father and two brothers in battle against the Philistines *(I Sam 31)* and David mourned the lives of Saul and Jonathan in song *(II Sam 1:17-27).*
6. The story of Jonathan and David did not end there, for they had made a covenant!
7. **Mephibosheth’s Invitation**
8. II Sam. 9:1-13: David makes an invitation to Mephibosheth! *(Learns of his existence – 9:1-4)*
9. Jonathan had a son, Mephibosheth *(II Sam. 4:4)* = *(H4648)* “Something shameful, or shameful things. Literally, “From the mouth of shameful god Baal”
   1. Mephibosheth: Merib-Baal *(H4807: I Chr. 8:34; H4807, H4810: I Chr. 9:40)* = “opponent (quarreler) of Baal.”
10. Mephibosheth was crippled up in both legs (lame)
    1. II Sam. 4:4; 9:13: When news of his father and grandfather’s death reached his nurse when he was just 5 years old, she feared for his life and in her zeal to save him she fled and he fell causing him to be crippled for the rest of his life.
11. Mephibosheth was as good as dead if not for the mercy of David
    1. II Sam. 9:7: David knew he was frightened & told him not to be because of the covenant with his father!
    2. II Sam. 9:8: Mephibosheth considered himself a “dead dog.” David could have cleaned house of all Saul’s family to rid himself of all his enemies *(II Sam. 4:5-8: Sons of Rimmon the Beerothite thought this was proper!).*
    3. II Sam. 9:7-11: David restored to him the estates of Saul, appointed servants for him, and gave him a place at the royal table.
12. Mephibosheth was away from the care of David, in the dark on his own
    1. II Sam. 9:3-4: David had to inquire about him (family of Saul), and sounded delighted to have found a son of Jonathan!
13. Mephibosheth didn’t seek out David; David took the initiative and sought him out
    1. II Sam. 9:1, 3: David inquired about any family of Saul to show kindness to for the sake of the covenant with Jonathan *(I Sam. 20:15).*
14. Mephibosheth was granted grace and mercy from the king! David gave Mephibosheth rest
    1. II Sam. 9:11-13: David invited Mephibosheth to eat from the king’s table (9:7). He was brought to Jerusalem and ate at the king’s table as a son of David!
15. David invited Mephibosheth to eat from his table regularly and be as a son to him!
16. **Mankind’s Invitation**
17. Mankind can be looked at as a type of Mephibosheth!
18. Mt. 11:28-30: Christ makes an invitation to all mankind! *(Mt. 22:1-14: Parable of the Marriage Feast – Invited to the King’s Table!)*
19. Mankind: Twisted and shameful with sin (Eph. 5:11-12)
20. Mankind: Crippled with sin (Rom. 3:23: All have sinned. You, me, all of us)
21. Mankind: Worthy of death (Rom. 6:23; Js. 1:14-15: Sin = Death. You, me, all of us)
22. Mankind: Away from the care of God, not able to direct our own path (Jer. 10:23; Jn. 12:35-36)
23. Mankind: Didn’t search for God first (Col. 2:13-14; I Jn. 4:19)
24. Mankind: Offered rest and mercy from Jesus Christ (Mt. 11:28-30; 22:1-14; Rom. 8:14-17; I Pet. 2:9-10: Invitation is to all who will obey and become children of God!)
25. Christ sought out mankind and extended an invitation for mercy, rest, and an inheritance as one of His children!
26. **Invited to Be a Child of God!**
27. David not only sought out Mephibosheth but bestowed grace and mercy upon him, fulfilling a covenant he had made with his father, and went a step further and brought him in as one of his own sons and let him eat at the king’s own table.
    1. Mephibosheth could have refused and denied the invitation!
    2. Mephibosheth could have told David “no.” But he recognized the life David could give him.
28. God recognized the state of mankind and knew we were worthy of death, and yet He took the initiative to seek us out to save us because of a covenant He made with Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3).
    1. Mankind can refuse the invitation and not belong to God!
    2. To have the grace, man has to accept Him – Do we recognize the life God gives us?
29. Without Christ we were dead, as without David Mephibosheth was as good as dead
    1. God took the initiative to save man *(Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8; Col. 2:13-14)*
    2. Those who accept and obey the gospel are children of God, true heirs of Abraham *(Jn. 1:12; Gal. 3:26-29)*
    3. God bestowed kindness and mercy *(Eph. 1:3-4: Blessed us with every spiritual blessing).*
    4. God adopted us as sons *(Eph. 1:5-12: Made heirs with Christ)* and invited us to the King’s Table *(Mt. 22:1-14)!*
30. To those who follow after Jesus, God has adopted as sons and heirs with Jesus, brought us to the Table of His grace as sons and daughters *(Rom. 8:14-17; I Jn. 3:1-3).*

**Conclusion**

1. Mephibosheth’s Invitation from David mirrors that of the Invitation to all of mankind from Jesus!
2. We were lost in our crooked world crippled with our shameful sins away from the grace of God, not knowing our own way or what was really good for us *(Jer. 10:23; Jn. 12:35-36).*
3. God took the initiative, sought us out, and offered His Son as the perfect sacrifice to purchase our lives so that we might live *(Rev. 5:9: Christ’s blood purchased us).*
4. He lavished upon us His grace and blessings, bringing us to His table as His children *(Rom. 8:14-17: He has made us fellow heirs with Christ, which means we have an inheritance of eternal life in Heaven – I Pet. 1:4)*
5. Mt. 11:28-30: Jesus laid out the invitation, “Come unto Me all who are weary laden, and I will give you rest” *(Rom. 8:18: Sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed).*
   1. “All who are weary and heavy-laden” reaches out to every individual!
6. The sacrifice has been made, the offer extended; we either choose His grace toward us and live in His peace, or make it on our own, doomed from the outset, marked for death!
7. How will you respond? *Won’t you come to the King’s Table?*
8. If not a Christian you need to be. No other name in which we can be saved (*Acts 4:12*).
9. If a Christian with sin prevailing in your life, repent of it and be renewed.
10. Whatever your requests, come forward ***NOW*** while we stand and sing!