

# LoDebar: The Grace of a King

2Samuel 9

# LoDebar: The Grace of a King

- LoDebar
  - A dismal place with almost no pasture and very little hope, a desolate, sad place where people went to disappear. While the name means “no pasture,” it came to mean “no word, or no communication,” as those who went there were almost never heard from again.

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- Mephibosheth
  - 2Sam. 4:4 - “Jonathan, Saul's son, had a son who was lame in his feet. He was five years old when the news about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel; and his nurse took him up and fled. And it happened, as she made haste to flee, that he fell and became lame. His name was Mephibosheth.”

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- David
  - King over Israel at the height of his glory when he recalled a covenant he made with his friend, Jonathan
  - 1Sam. 20:13-17 - “But if it pleases my father to do you evil, then I will report it to you and send you away, that you may go in safety. And the LORD be with you as He has been with my father. 14 And you shall not only show me the kindness of the LORD while I still live, that I may not die; 15 but you shall not cut off your kindness from my house forever, no, not when the LORD has cut off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth.’ 16 So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, ‘Let the LORD require it at the hand of David's enemies.’ 17 Now Jonathan again caused David to vow, because he loved him; for he loved him as he loved his own soul.”

# LoDebar: The Grace of a King

- He was heartbroken when Jonathan was killed  
– 2Sam. 1:17-27
- He was determined to keep his vow regardless of how much time had passed
- He offered grace to one who was hopeless and helpless: Unexpected, unsolicited, un-believed

# Mephibosheth's Need For Grace

- He was separated from David the king, the city of Jerusalem, and the palace
  - Isa. 59:2 - “But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear”
  - Eph. 2:12-13 - “That at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.”

# Mephibosheth's Need For Grace

- He was afraid of David
  - 2Sam. 9:7 - “So David said to him, Do not fear, for I will surely show you kindness...”
  - Isa. 6:5 - “So I said: Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips...”
  - Acts 5:12-13 - “And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. 13 Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.”

# Mephibosheth's Need For Grace

- He had no means of changing his condition
  - Rom. 3:23 - “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”
  - Rom. 6:23 - “For the wages of sin is death...”
  - Heb. 10:31 - “It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”



# The Grace Of A King

- David was seeking someone to whom he could show kindness
  - Titus 3:4-5 - “But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us...”

# The Grace Of A King

- David poured out abundance on someone who had done nothing to earn it and who had no means of repaying it
  - Eph. 2:8-10 - “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

# The Grace Of A King

- David's grace was given on the merits of another
  - Eph. 1:3-7 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved. 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace"

# The Grace Of A King

- David helped a man who could not help himself
  - Rom. 5:6-8 - “For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

# The Product Of Grace

- Though Mephibosheth was still lame in both feet, each time he put his feet under David's table, his condition was covered
  - Rom. 4:7-8 - "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And whose sins are covered; 8 Blessed is the man to whom the LORD shall not impute sin."

# The Product Of Grace

- Recipients of grace show gratitude by faithfulness
  - 2Sam. 19:24-30
  - He mourned while David was in exile
  - He did not complain when Ziba took his donkey and fled and later spoke ill of Mephibosheth
  - He did not want to burden David at an unsettled time and put Israel at further risk by stirring up trouble

# The Grace of Our King

- God has been good to us, much better than we deserve. He has given us the riches of His grace and has offered us a place in His palace and at His table.
- In view of that, what should be our response?
- While we can never repay him, we can show our gratitude by dedication to Him.