

# Let's Worship God

25th-30th May 2026

2 Samuel



# II SAMUEL

## Monday - 2 Samuel 9:1-3 - Reason to Hide

In the Gospels Jesus is seldom called the Son of Moses or Son of Abraham, but over and over again he's called the Son of David. That doesn't just mean he was a descendant of David. It means when David the king is at his best, we're getting a glimpse into the heart of our true King. We're getting a glimpse into our own salvation and into the heart of the character of God our Savior. In this chapter we have a breath-taking picture of what the gospel really is!

In the opening verse of the chapter, David asks a question, which up until the comma is a question no-one would have batted an eyelid at. But what he says after the comma is so unexpected that there would have probably been gasps of surprise around the room as he said it. When a new dynasty started, when a new king came to the throne, it was the most natural thing in the world for him to ask if there was still anyone left belonging to the old regime. That was for the sole reason that he could hunt them down and kill them. For us, that's totally barbaric, but back then, no-one would have batted an eyelid. We have examples of it happening in the Bible. For example, when Baasha comes to the throne in 1 Kings 15, we're told, 'as soon as he was king, he killed all the house of Jeroboam'. He's followed by Zimri, who does the same thing: 'When he began to reign, as soon as he had seated himself on his throne, he struck down all the house of Baasha'. In 2nd Kings 10 Jehu does the same thing. Why did they do it? Because as long as anyone related to the old king is still alive, they can become a focus for a rebellion.

We've seen that already in 2nd Samuel. Do you remember Ish-bosheth? He was a surviving son of Saul. Back in chapter 2, Abner, Saul's army commander, takes him and makes him king. Ish-bosheth was a weak ruler, a puppet king, but that didn't matter. He became a focal point for those tribes who weren't willing to accept David as king over them. So hunting down and killing any remaining descendants of Saul wasn't simply the done thing. There's also evidence in this book already that humanly speaking it's the only way for David to be really secure.

### Question

1. What did kings usually do when they came to the throne?

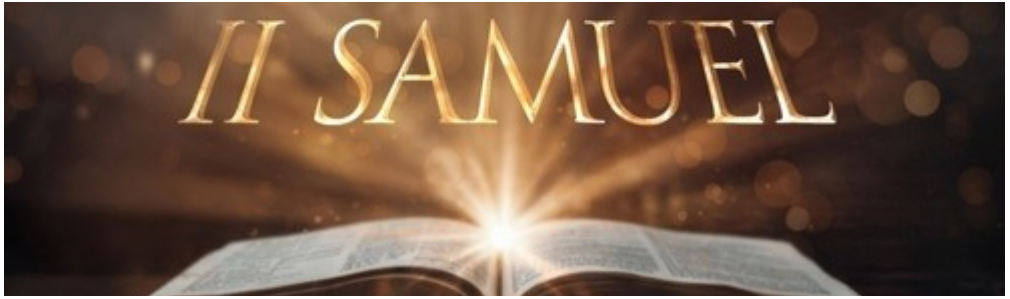
### Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the good news of salvation.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." 2 Samuel 9:7

**Praise: Psalm 15A - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**



## **Tuesday - 2 Samuel 9:1-7 - Reason to Hide Because of Ancestry**

As long as Mephibosheth is alive, he's a potential rallying point for those who don't want David as king. The only way for David to guarantee himself a nice, safe, secure kingdom is to take him out. Mephibosheth is well aware of that fact. The fact that David isn't aware of his existence is likely because Mephibosheth was trying to keep his head down. That's why, when David does send people to bring him, he falls on his face. The reason David tells him 'Do not fear' in v7 is because he's likely trembling and thinking he's going to be executed on the spot. The reason Mephibosheth was afraid wasn't because of anything he'd done himself. But it was because of who he was related to. Mephibosheth stood condemned before David because he was descended from Saul. We stand condemned before God because we're descended from Adam. And we add to that guilt every hour by our actions.

Rather than simply being sinners because we sin - we sin because we're sinners. It's not that we do x, y and z and so that makes us a sinner, but rather it's because we're born sinners that we do x, y and z. Many will say 'that's not fair'. But an even more fundamental question than 'is it fair' is - 'is it true'? The idea that we'll eventually all just learn to be nice to each other, which was so prevalent at the beginning of the 20th century, has long since been disproved. People may argue against the statement that the reason they sin is because they're born sinners, but it's the only rational explanation for why the world's in the state that it's in.

God's standard is perfection. But people find it hard to shake the delusion that if they just clean themselves up a bit, then he'll accept them. But the truth of original sin means that even if they can clean their life up a bit, they can't change who they fundamentally are. If we're born as good people who just commit some sins, then if we could cut out our sinning, we would go back to being good people. But if we're born sinners, then the only hope for us is to be born again.

### **Question**

1. Why was Mephibosheth so afraid?
2. What is original sin?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." 2 Samuel 9:7

**Praise: Psalm 16:1-5 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# II SAMUEL

## **Wednesday - 2 Samuel 9:1-6 - Reason to Hide Because Nothing to Offer**

Melchizedek had reason to hide from the king because of who he was descended from. But he also had reason to hide from the king because he had nothing to offer him. Why? Because he was a cripple. Mephibosheth says in v6 'Behold I am your servant'. But even if David spared him - what sort of service would he be able to offer? In a society that was based around farming and fighting, there wasn't really a role for a cripple. Mephibosheth himself realises that. In v8 he says: 'What is your servant, that you should show regard for a dead dog such as I?' That's not false humility - he means it.

Mephibosheth says later on in the book, in chapter 19, 'For all my father's house were but men doomed to death before my lord the king, but you set your servant among those who eat at your table'. And that's us, or at least, that's what we were. We were men, women, boys and girls who were doomed to death, not simply physical death, but eternal death, the second death, as it's called in Revelation, Hell itself.

So we have every reason to hide from the king. We're born into the old order, and we demonstrate that every day of our lives. Even if he were to overlook that - we have nothing to offer him. And that's where the gospel always has to start, with our utter helplessness. Without God we're in a completely hopeless situation, and there's nothing we can do about it. This crippled man, lying on his face before the king, unable to offer him anything, and expecting nothing but judgement, that's us. Our world is, as someone has put it, hiding from God, and yet crying out for him. And we have reason to hide from him. But then comes the absolutely unexpected and astonishing good news of the rest of the chapter!

## **Question2**

1. What did Mephibosheth have to offer?
2. How is Mephibosheth like us?

## **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that those around us would see the serious situation they are in.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## **Memory Verse**

And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." 2 Samuel 9:7

**Praise: Psalm 16:6-10 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# II SAMUEL

## Thursday - 2 Samuel 9:6-8 - Don't Be Afraid

As Mephibosheth falls on his face at the king's feet, he expects only judgement. Instead he hears words that he would never forget as long as he lived. In fact, we could sum up David's gracious invitation to Mephibosheth in this chapter in 3 commands. So what is the gospel as Mephibosheth hears it from David?

3 commands:

Don't be afraid.

Eat at my table.

Be like a son.

Firstly: Don't be afraid. Mephibosheth, as we've seen, had plenty of reason to be afraid. So do we, when we realise our position before God. Yet the most frequent command in the Bible is 'do not be afraid'. The gospel is fundamentally good news!

When Jesus is born, the shepherds are terrified when they see an angel. But what does he say to them? 'Fear not, for behold I bring you good news of great joy'.

33 years later, when Mary Magdalene and the other Mary run from the empty tomb and the angel to tell the disciples, they meet Jesus himself who says to them: 'Do not be afraid'.

We don't have to be swallowed up by the culture of fear all around us, because we have a Saviour who repeatedly says to us: 'Do not be afraid'. Mephibosheth, contrary to all his expectations, meets a kind king who says to him 'Do not be afraid'. So do we, if only we face up to the seriousness of our position before him and throw ourselves on his mercy. From the garden of Eden onwards human beings have tried to hide from God. Yet when he comes looking for us, it's in order to expose the sin, that it might be dealt with. So the first gracious command from the kind king is: Don't be afraid.

## Question

1. What does David tell Mephibosheth?

## Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Christ tells us not to be afraid.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

## Memory Verse

And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." 2 Samuel 9:7

**Praise: Psalm 19B - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# II SAMUEL

## Friday - 2 Samuel 9:7-13- Eat At My Table; Be Like A Son

The second invitation is: Eat at my table. This command - or a reference to it - is repeated 4 times in this chapter: v7: You shall eat at my table always; v10: But Mephibosheth your master's grandson shall always eat at my table; v11: So Mephibosheth ate at David's table, like one of the king's sons; v13: So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king's table.

This invitation takes things to a whole new level. It's one thing to tell Mephibosheth not to be afraid. It was conceivable, that David, because of his friendship to Jonathan, would spare Mephibosheth's life. But to invite him to eat at his table?! That goes way beyond Mephibosheth's wildest dreams! David doesn't simply spare his life, but he heaps goodness on top of him. That's what we receive in the gospel. God doesn't merely accept us. He doesn't simply tolerate us. He invites us to eat at his table. It's the marriage supper of the lamb, of which the Lord's Supper is just a foretaste. This chapter tells us that our King is a King who invites broken people to his table.

Look at v11: So Mephibosheth ate at David's table, like one of the king's sons. This invitation to sit at David's table, is an invitation to be like one of his own family members. Mephibosheth falls before David and calls himself a servant. He's hoping against hope that David will treat him as a servant, rather than an enemy, just like the prodigal son. But both Mephibosheth and the prodigal are told - no, you're not going to be treated like a servant! You're going to be treated like a son. That's the gospel. To those who come in repentance and faith, God says: Don't be afraid; Eat at my table; Become my son or daughter.

Who takes the initiative in this chapter? Is it Mephibosheth? No. Mephibosheth hasn't the first thought of going near David. It's the same for us. We haven't the least thought of going to God. But - Romans 5:8 - God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. We were lost sheep. He is the Good Shepherd who came looking for us.

### Question

1. What does this tell us about the Gospel?

### Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God heaps good things upon us.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." 2 Samuel 9:7

**Praise: Psalm 20 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

# II SAMUEL

## **Saturday - 2 Samuel 9:7-13 - The Covenant**

Why does David do all this? The answer really is 'covenant'. The word translated kindness in this chapter is the Hebrew word 'hesed'. Which could be translated as 'covenant love' or 'steadfast love'. 15 or 20 years before, Jonathan had made a covenant with David. Jonathan gladly accepted what Saul refused to accept - that David was God's chosen king. Jonathan says to David: 'If I am still alive, show me the steadfast love of the LORD, that I may not die, and do not cut off your steadfast love - your hesed - from my house forever, when the LORD cuts off every one of the enemies of David from the face of the earth. And Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David... And Jonathan made David swear again by his love for him'. David had made a similar promise to Saul. The first time David has the opportunity to kill Saul and doesn't, Saul says at the end of 1st Samuel 24: 'Swear to me therefore by the LORD that you will not cut off my offspring after me, and that you will not destroy my name out of my father's house'. And David keeps his promises.

Those covenant promises are the basis of all that David does in this chapter. David could have said - look, I know I made the promise, but times have changed. But he's made a covenant. In the words of Psalm 15, he's sworn to his hurt, and isn't going to try and wriggle out of it. Make no mistake, this is costly for David. It's costly, because it leaves the possibility that Mephibosheth or his son could become the focus of a rebellion. It's also costly for David in v9 to give Mephibosheth all the land that belonged to Saul.

God's love for us is a covenant love. From all eternity the Father and Son made a covenant commitment that the Son would save a people for himself. Throughout the Bible we see God's covenant promises to his people that he would do just that. We can be sure that having made those promises, he's not going to change his mind. He's not going to let us go. Because he has made a covenant commitment to share his immeasurable riches with us. Neither the passing of time - or the fact that we're so undeserving - can weaken that commitment.

### **Question**

1. What do we learn about God's covenant love here?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

And David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan, and I will restore to you all the land of Saul your father, and you shall eat at my table always." 2 Samuel 9:7

**Praise: Psalm 23B- See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that  
Ezra read from  
the book of the Law  
day after day  
and that  
the people of God  
were filled with joy!**

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If you have any queries please contact - [rpchurchscotland@gmail.com](mailto:rpchurchscotland@gmail.com)