

**~MEPHIBOSHETH 2 (218)**  
**(Me-phib'o-sheth)**

- Son of Jonathan, grandson of King Saul. When the report about the deaths of Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel, **Mephibosheth's** nurse began to carry the five-year-old boy and flee in panic. At that time he had a fall and was lamed in both feet.
- Now Jonathan, the son of Saul, had a son lame in the feet. Five years old he happened to be when the report about Saul and Jonathan came from Jezreel, and his nurse began to carry him and flee, but it came about that as she was running in panic to flee, he then had a fall and was lamed. And his name was **Mephibosheth**. (2 Samuel 4:4)
- For some years thereafter, **Mephibosheth** lived in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel at Lo-debar. David learned this from Ziba, a former servant in Saul's house. Doubtless remembering his covenant with Jonathan.
- And Jonathan went on to say to David; Yehowah the God of Israel be a witness that I shall sound out my father about this time tomorrow, or the third day, and if he is well-disposed toward David, shall I not then send to you and certainly disclose it to your ear? (1 Samuel 20:12)
- So may Yehowah do to Jonathan and so may he add to it, if, in case it should seem good to my father to do evil against you, I do not indeed disclose it to your ear and send you away, and you do not certainly go in peace. And may Yehowah prove to be with you, just as he proved to be with my father. (1 Samuel 20:13)
- And will you not, if I shall be still alive, yes, will you not exercise the loving-kindness of Yehowah toward me, that I may not die? (1 Samuel 20:14)
- And you will not cut off your own loving-kindness from being with my household to time indefinite. Nor, when Yehowah cuts off the enemies of David, every one from the surface of the ground. (1 Samuel 20:15)
- Will the name of Jonathan be cut off from the house of David.

**And Yehowah must require it at the hand of David's enemies. (1 Samuel 20:16)**

- **So Jonathan swore again to David because of his love for him, for as he loved his own soul he loved him. (1 Samuel 20:17)**
- **And Jonathan went on to say to David; Go in peace, since we have sworn, both of us, in the name of Yehowah, saying; May Yehowah himself prove to be between me and you and between my offspring and your offspring to time indefinite. Accordingly David rose up and went his way, and Jonathan himself came into the city. (1 Samuel 20:42)**
- **David wished to exercise loving-kindness toward anyone left over of the house of Saul. **Mephibosheth** was brought before David, and when the king explained that it was his desire to exercise loving-kindness toward Mephibosheth by returning to him all the field of Saul and by having him eat bread at my table constantly, **Mephibosheth** responded humbly.**
- **What is your servant, that you have turned your face to the dead dog such as I am? However, in keeping with David's determination in the matter, Ziba and all those dwelling in his house, including 15 sons and 20 servants, became servants to **Mephibosheth**, who was given Saul's property. He thereafter resided in Jerusalem and constantly ate at the table of the king. (2 Samuel Chapter 9)**
- **When David fled from Jerusalem because of Absalom's conspiracy, he was met by Ziba, who provided him with supplies. Answering David's inquiries as to the whereabouts of **Mephibosheth**, Ziba said,**
- **When David himself had crossed over a little beyond the summit, there was Ziba the attendant of **Mephibosheth** to meet him with a couple of asses saddled and upon them two hundred loaves of bread and a hundred cakes of raisins and a hundred loads of summer fruit and a large jar of wine. (2 Samuel 16:1)**
- **Then the king said to Ziba; What do these things mean on your part? To this Ziba said; The asses are for the household of the king to ride, and the bread and the load of summer fruit are for the young men to eat, and the wine is for the one tired out in the wilderness to drink. (2 Samuel 16:2)**

- The king now said; And where is the son of your master? At this Ziba said to the king; There he is dwelling in Jerusalem, for he said; Today the house of Israel will give back to me the royal rule of my father. (2 Samuel 16:3)
- The king then said to Ziba; Look! yours is everything that belongs to **Mephibosheth**. Upon that Ziba said; I do bow down. Let me find favor in your eyes, my lord the king. (2 Samuel 16:4)
- **Mephibosheth** came to meet David upon the king's return to Jerusalem, the account saying he had not attended to his feet nor had he attended to his mustache nor had he washed his garments from the day that the king went away until the day that he came in peace.
- When David asked why **Mephibosheth** had not gone with him, **Mephibosheth** gave the explanation that his servant had tricked him and also said; So he slandered your servant to my lord the king. But my lord the king is as an angel of the true God, that is, he would see the matter in its true light.
- David evidently recognized **Mephibosheth's** innocence, altering his first decree by saying; You and Ziba should share in the field. To this **Mephibosheth** replied; Let him even take the whole, now that my lord the king has come in peace to his house.
- As for **Mephibosheth** the grandson of Saul, he came down to meet the king, and he had not attended to his feet nor had he attended to his mustache nor had he washed his garments from the day that the king went away until the day that he came in peace. (2 Samuel 19:24)
- And it came about that, when he came to Jerusalem to meet the king, then the king said to him; Why did you not go with me, **Mephibosheth**? (2 Samuel 19:25)
- To this he said; My lord the king, it was my servant that tricked me. For your servant had said; Let me saddle the female ass for me that I may ride upon it and go with the king, for your servant is lame. (2 Samuel 19:26)
- So he slandered your servant to my lord the king. But my lord the king is as an angel of the true God, and so do what is good in your eyes. (2 Samuel 19:27)

- For all the household of my father would have become nothing but doomed to death to my lord the king, and yet you placed your servant among those eating at your table. So what do I still have as a just claim even for crying out further to the king? (2 Samuel 19:28)
- However, the king said to him; Why do you yet keep speaking your words? I do say; You and Ziba should share in the field. (2 Samuel 19:29)
- At this **Mephibosheth** said to the king; Let him even take the whole, now that my lord the king has come in peace to his house. (2 Samuel 19:30)
- The one first in his legal case is righteous, his fellow comes in and certainly searches him through. (Proverbs 18:17)
- Do not go forth to conduct a legal case hastily, that it may not be a question of what you will do in the culmination of it when your fellowman now humiliates you. (Proverbs 25:8)
- Plead your own cause with your fellowman, and do not reveal the confidential talk of another. (Proverbs 25:9)
- That the one listening may not put you to shame and the bad report by you can have no recall. (Proverbs 25:10)
- When the Gibeonites sought the death of Saul's descendants to atone for that king's evil attempt against them, David felt compassion for **Mephibosheth** because of the oath of Yehowah between David and Jonathan and spared **Mephibosheth**.
- However, the king felt compassion upon **Mephibosheth** the son of Jonathan the son of Saul on account of the oath of Yehowah that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul. (2 Samuel 21:7)
- Consequently the king took the two sons of Rizpah the daughter of Aiah whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and **Mephibosheth**, and the five sons of Michal the daughter of Saul whom she bore to Adriel the son of Barzillai the Meholahite. (2 Samuel 21:8)

- The Scriptures provide no further information about **Mephibosheth**, though Saul's family continued in existence to a later generation through **Mephibosheth's** son Mica or Micah.
- Now **Mephibosheth** had a young son whose name was Mica, and all those dwelling in the house of Ziba were servants to Mephibosheth. (**2 Samuel 9:12**)
- As for Ner, he became father to Kish. Kish, in turn, became father to Saul. Saul, in turn, became father to Jonathan and Malchi-shua and Abinadab and Eshbaal. (**1 Chronicles 9:39**)
- And the son of Jonathan was Merib-baal. As for Merib-baal, he became father to Micah. (**1 Chronicles 9:40**)
- And the sons of Micah were Pithon and Melech and Tahrea and Ahaz. (**1 Chronicles 9:41**)
- As for Ahaz, he became father to Jarah. Jarah, in turn, became father to Alemeth and Azmaveth and Zimri. Zimri, in turn, became father to Moza. (**1 Chronicles 9:42**)
- As for Moza, he became father to Binea and Rephaiah his son, Eleasah his son, Azel his son. (**1 Chronicles 9:43**)
- And Azel had six sons, and these were their names, Azrikam, Bocheru and Ishmael and Sheariah and Obadiah and Hanan. These were the sons of Azel. (**1 Chronicles 9:44**)
- Evidently **Mephibosheth** also had the name Merib-baal, as at;
- And Jonathan's son was Merib-baal. As for Merib-baal, he became father to Micah. (**1 Chronicles 8:34**)
- Uthai the son of Ammihud the son of Omri the son of Imri the son of Bani, of the sons of Perez the son of Judah. (**1 Chronicles 9:4**)