Dinner At David's Place

2 Samuel 9:1 And David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?

- At the death of Saul and Jonathan, all their family members fled for fear, not of the Philistines, but for fear of the new king (David).
- Mephibosheth, a little five-year-old prince who knew nothing but the palace, was crippled when he was dropped by his fleeing nurse.
- For the last fifteen years he has been living in a refugee city called Lodebar ("a barren place")
- He is a perfect picture of the disabled human soul, crippled by sin.
- Isn't it ironic that we don't run from sin (Philistines) but we spend our lives running from God (King David)?
- We were created for the palace, but we have never recovered from the Fall. We've all been dropped by people we thought could carry us to safety. It wasn't our fault, but we've been crippled for life!
- Hollywood presents sin as attractive, but the Bible portrays sinners accurately as grotesquely disfigured, hopeless cripples.
- Lameness is among the imperfections that barred a descendant of Aaron from entering the Holy Place or offering sacrifices.

Leviticus 21:18 For whatsoever man he be that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous,

- KINDNESS – “chesed” – mercy, lovingkindness, grace
- David’s question: NOT “is there anyone deserving, sharp, strong?”
- BUT “is there anyone?” (whosoever will)
- Ziba’s answer: “yes, there is someone, but he is crippled” (you wouldn’t want him around here, he’s not like the rest of us)
- David is not showing kindness because of Mephibosheth, but because of another – Jonathan! (It’s all because of Jesus!)

Romans 9:15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

- Mephibosheth brings no prestige whatsoever to David’s kingdom – his whole life from this point forward will be dependent on GRACE!
- When Mephibosheth appears before David, he calls himself a “dead dog” – (saved a wretch like me, for such a worm as I, etc.) – the humility is commendable, but that’s not how God sees us!
- What was the most common command from Jesus’ lips? “Fear not!”

Ezekiel 16:6 And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thy own blood, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live.

- Nearly sixty verses of sin later, God still shows mercy toward Israel:
- Ezekiel 16:60 Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant.