



Mephibosheth in COVENANT

(Part 1)

-By Pastor Charles Omofomah-

I want to share some truths concerning the Covenant we have with God through Jesus Christ. A covenant is an agreement between two or more parties. In a covenant, each party has certain responsibilities towards the covenant. They make promises to one another and keep the promises. If a covenant is a blood covenant, the only thing that can break it is by the death of one or all parties involved.

1 And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking unto Saul that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.

2 And Saul took him that day, and would let him go no more home to his father's house.

3 Then Jonathan and David made a Covenant, because he loved him as his own soul.

4 And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was upon him, and gave it to David, and his garments, even to his sword, and to his bow, and to his girdle.

1 Samuel 18:1-4 (KJV)

12 And Jonathan said unto David, O LORD God of Israel, when I have sounded my father about to morrow any time, or the third day, and, behold, if there be good toward David, and I then send not unto thee, and shew it thee;

13 The LORD do so and much more to Jonathan: but if it please my father to do thee evil, then I will shew it thee, and send thee away, that thou mayest go in peace: and the LORD be with thee, as he hath been with my father.

14 And thou shalt not only while yet I live shew me the kindness of the LORD, that I die not:

15 But also thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever: no, not when the LORD hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth.

16 So Jonathan made a covenant with the house of David, saying, Let the LORD even require it at the hand of David's enemies.

17 And Jonathan caused David to swear again, because he loved him: for he loved him as he loved his own soul.

1 Samuel 20:12-17 (KJV)

Here, David and Jonathan made a covenant with each other, but at the time they made this covenant those really making the covenant were their families and descendants who were in their loins. That is why Jonathan said: *"But also thou shalt not cut off thy kindness from my house for ever: no, not when the LORD hath cut off the enemies of David every one from the face of the earth"* (1 Samuel 20:15).

The New Testament says:

22 But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,

23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

Hebrews 12:22-24 (KJV)

If you are born again and have committed your life to Jesus Christ, you are in an everlasting Covenant with God the Father because of the blood of Jesus that was shed for you. I want you to take the lessons you are going to learn from this article for yourself knowing that you have an everlasting Covenant with God the Father because when Jesus died you were in Him, and when He rose again from the death, you were in Him.

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?

2 And there was of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Ziba. And when they had called him unto David, the king said unto him, Art thou Ziba? And he said,

Thy servant is he.

3 And the king said, Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.

4 And the king said unto him, Where is he? And Ziba said unto the king, Behold, he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lodebar.

5 Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lodebar.

6 Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibosheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!

7 And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

8 And he bowed himself, and said, What is thy servant, that thou shouldest look upon such a dead dog as I am?

9 Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house.

10 Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits, that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread alway at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

11 Then said Ziba unto the king, According to all that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. As for Mephibosheth, said the king, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons.

12 And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Micha. And all that dwelt in the house of Ziba were servants unto Mephibosheth.

13 So Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem: for he did eat continually at the king's table; and was lame on both his feet.

2 Samuel 9:1-13 (KJV)

Mephibosheth was the son of Jonathan, David's covenant friend. So of what relevance was the covenant to him? Was he there when the Covenant was made? Yes, he was there when the covenant was made because he was in the loins of his father. David in his capacity as the King, remembered his covenant with Jonathan and asked Ziba the servant of Saul, *"Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathan's sake?"* (2 Samuel 9:1). He remembered that when he made a covenant with their father they were in his loins. That is the power and the strength of the covenant.

The word, "kindness" is a covenant word that means *being friendly, generous and considerate*. Though David was a kind man, it was not human kindness that made him do what he did. 2 Samuel 21:7 says, *"But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan the son of Saul, because of the Lord's oath that was between them, between David and Jonathan the son of Saul."* It was the oath between David and Jonathan that propelled him to do what he did for Mephibosheth. That covenant was binding on all who would come out of their loins. In the same vein, when Jesus died, you were in His loins. When He was buried, you were in His loins. When He rose triumphantly, you were in His loins. His triumph was your triumph. Everything He gained was your gain. Hallelujah!

Brought out of Lodebar

When Saul and Jonathan died, people fed the sons of Jonathan with false information about David. They said he wanted to wipe out their father's name from the history of his people. They took away Mephibosheth who then was a little child and in the process of running with him, he was dropped and both his legs were broken. He grew up, got married and had

children but still had a wrong notion about David. When David was told that Mephibosheth was at Lodebar, he sent people to fetch him out of Lodebar (2 Samuel 9:5). "Lodebar" means *pastureless land, or a wilderness*. I want to announce to you that the Covenant has taken you out of "Lodebar." When you accepted Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, you were delivered from everything that hindered you from serving God. Unfortunately, a lot of Christians still remain at "Lodebar."

13 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 1:12-13 (NKJV)

God has conveyed us into the Kingdom of the Son of His love. I can imagine that when David sent to fetch Mephibosheth, he did not send somebody to trek and bring him. They must have used the King's chariots with the King's escorts to go and fetch him. Right there at Lodebar, the King's chariots would have come, and Mephibosheth would have been put in the best chariots of the time and taken to the King's Palace. When they went to fetch Mephibosheth from Lodebar, he was not brought out secretly, it was with sirens and the best chariots and entourage of the King. When the people of Lodebar heard the sirens, they thought the King had come to wipe them out even though the coming was a joyful one. They could not believe it because they were in unbelief and discouragement in Lodebar. However, that did not stop what David intended to do.

God wants to convey you out of Lodebar. That's why the Bible says in John 10:10 that Jesus came that you may have life and have it more abundantly. You are in Covenant with God to have abundant life. You are in Covenant with God to have the best. You are not in Covenant to settle for less than the best. The best is yours through the Covenant.

David had all the resources to say, "Mephibosheth, I remember the covenant that I had with your father but remain at Lodebar, I will be sending money there for you to take care of yourself." For someone who saw himself as "a dead dog" (2 Samuel 9:8), that would have sufficed. However, that was not what David did because the covenant does not come in half measures. God does not want to make you a benevolence case. God does not want to send help to you while you are still in your mess, no. God's help is designed to bring you out of your mess. He wants to fetch you out of the confusion that has been your trademark. He wants to fetch you out of that sin that has been your trademark. He wants to fetch you out of that poverty that has plagued your family. He wants to bring you out of that barrenness. He wants to bring you out of that wilderness and that pastureless land. God delivered you out of the power of darkness and translated you into the kingdom of His dear Son. You have been removed from your old stock and grafted into a new stock and Jesus is the root of that new stock.

Spiritual Grafting

When Mephibosheth got to King David, he bowed before him. In spite of being in the presence of the King, he still called himself, "a dead dog." If he had called himself, "a dog," it would have been bad enough. Like Mephibosheth, a lot of Christians do this and they think they are being humble. You are not, "a dog" if you have been grafted into the Kingdom of God's dear Son. When you got born again, pomp and pageantry accompanied your salvation and angels celebrated you. Before you gave your life to Christ, you could not see beyond your nose because of sin. Now you are standing on a mountain with your head high and so you can see what others cannot see because of the Covenant.

Today, you can enjoy the Covenant because of the spiritual grafting that took place when you became born again (Romans 11:17-24). The Jews were chosen, but when they rejected the Messiah, the Gentiles were grafted into the Kingdom of God.

When you accept Jesus, from being a Gentile, you are grafted into the Kingdom of God.



There are three Kingdoms: the Jewish Kingdom, the Kingdom of the Gentiles and the Kingdom of God. You are either a Gentile or you belong to the Kingdom of God. When you accept Jesus, from being a Gentile, you are grafted into the Kingdom of God, and until God is through with the Gentiles, He is not restoring the Jews.

The good news is that the Kingdom of God makes provision for both Jews and Gentiles. What happens is that when you come into the Kingdom of God you are grafted into it. This grafting is done contrary to nature because of the Covenant. Once you are grafted, you always have to remind yourself that your root has been changed and you are no longer in your old stock.