

Mephibosheth in COVENANT

-By Pastor Charles Omofomah-

(Part 2)

In the previous article, we brought out the fact that we have a Covenant with God through Jesus Christ and we used the covenant between David and Jonathan to illustrate this. We saw how Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan became the heir of that covenant, and we began examining several parallels between Mephibosheth and we who are heirs of the New Covenant. As David sent and brought Mephibosheth out of Lodebar, a barren and pastureless land, so also has God brought us out of the kingdom of darkness into the Kingdom of His dear Son.

In this article, we will examine some more parallels between Mephibosheth and we in the New Covenant as we discover what the New Covenant gives us.

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)

The Covenant Gives You Access To God

David opened the way for Mepibosheth by making Mepibosheth, who saw himself as a "dead dog," eat bread at his table continually (2 Samuel 9:13). In the same vein, the Covenant gives you access to God. Mepibosheth had access to King David, and if anybody dared to offend him, he could rely on the power that backed up King David because he had access to him through the covenant. The New Covenant in the Blood of Jesus Christ gives us access to God and we can approach Him without a sin consciousness nor condemnation.

The parent of every religion is sin consciousness, and sin consciousness puts you in a state of perpetual condemnation. It makes you see yourself as "a dead dog" like Mepibosheth said he was (2 Samuel 9:8). When Jesus saved you, He created in you a sense of innocence like one who never sinned. That is why God invites you to come boldly into His presence.

16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

Whenever you need to talk with God, all you have to do is call out to Him boldly, irrespective of where you are because He has given you access. Immediately you call out, you have access to Him because the sceptre has been stretched out to you in Jesus Christ.

I grew up in the Roman Catholic Church. Then, Reverend Fathers were foreigners. Some of them used to smoke cigarettes, yet no one saw anything wrong in it. In fact, if a Reverend Father shook hands with you in a dream, you would not wash your hands when you woke up. They were like

gods to us because they were the people one had to meet in the cubicle during Confession. It was also easy to revere them because they made themselves scarce and created an air of mystery around themselves. That is not what we have in Christ. In Christ we have access to God and there is no room for mystery anymore.

The story of Esther in the Old Testament helps us understand the principle of access. When Esther had to approach the King without invitation, it was a matter of life or death. However, she went ahead and she obtained favour from the king who made the Law. The King stretched the golden sceptre towards her, and that gave her access to receive whatsoever she desired even up to half of the kingdom. The sceptre was a golden sceptre indicating that the best that existed was available to her (Esther 4:11-5:2). Likewise, because of the Covenant, the hand of God is permanently out stretched towards you. Since Jesus died, a golden sceptre of acceptance has been stretched out telling you that the wrath of God is no longer upon you because the entire wrath of God was poured on Jesus when God turned His back on Him at the Cross. You can access God now more than before because the golden sceptre has been outstretched.

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.

2 Samuel 9:9-11

What comes to your mind when you think of Mephibosheth at the King's table? We know that there was good food on that table; but there was something else that happened at the table: there was dinner conversation. Kings don't rush their meals, they converse at the table. David wanted that relationship with Mephibosheth. You must understand what the Covenant gives you. The Covenant does not give you a religion; it gives you a life style. It gives you a relationship with God.

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Jesus when God turned His back on Him at the cross.

The Covenant Gives You Restoration

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 always at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

2 Samuel 9:9-10

In spite of the fact that Mephibosheth ate at the King's table continually, every estate his father ever owned, was given back to him. The King also sent Ziba and his servants to till the land for him. The land was not restored to Mephibosheth because he was hungry, but because of the covenant. That is why God does not meet you at the point of your need, He meets you at the point of your faith or at the point of your seed. Needs don't move God; faith does (Hebrew 11:6).

The Covenant restores your inheritance not because you are hungry, but because it is your right. Some people think they are rich so they short-circuit the Covenant. You must understand that abundance is your right even if you are rich. In the same way, you don't go after your Covenant right of abundance just because you are poor or hungry. If you do, when you become rich, you'll stop seeking after God. That is why some Christians no longer pay their tithes because they have struck their first contract in millions of naira.

Mephibosheth commanded land and an empire he did not know anything about, not because he was hungry but because of the covenant. They were bringing food to him but he used it to feed other people. Impact was taking place. When you get your inheritance restored then you can affect the lives of others. God's restoration does not come to you so that you can just eat three square meals. It is more than that. You have to see beyond your needs, to the needs of others.

When God created man, He gave man dominion. Satan, the enemy came and stole it. But through Christ, God has restored it back to man.

Before Mephibosheth was brought to King David, Ziba had taken illegal possession of what was Mephibosheth's but David restored all. If a mere covenant between two human beings: Jonathan and David, could do this for Mephibosheth, how much more will the Covenant we have with the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords do for us! Tell sickness, fear, failure, poverty, "I want my inheritance restored to me. I am in charge. No longer am I going to be put down!"

Not only did David tell Ziba to pack his belongings, Ziba was made to serve Mephibosheth because Mephibosheth, the rightful owner had come.

27 I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him.

Ezekiel 21:27

When Jesus came, He overturned and restored all things back to the Church in fulfillment of this prophecy. This prophecy has two dimensions. The first dimension has been fulfilled Jesus came to dwell among men. Jesus came and overturned and when He had overturned, He sat down. That was a sign that the work had been done. It is finished! Therefore, now you can enter into your rest.

The second dimension shows that we take what belongs to us by faith. When people sit on your rights and refuse to give it to you, if you are in faith, remember God says He will overturn until he who has the right shows up. If you are standing in faith, and what belongs to you seems to be eluding you, use this principle. Don't say, "I have believed God now for three years." No! He is still overturning. This is not a matter of where you came from, neither is it a matter of the colour of your skin or how long you have been waiting. It is a matter of operating by faith like a citizen of heaven.

Many years ago, (when I did not even know 1 percent of what I now know) there was a mistake in my statement of result in my Secondary School, so I went to see my Principal towards having it rectified. I got there, but the way he drove me out of his office, you would have thought that I stole. I went to a friend and we prayed, then I went back and the same man asked me, "Are you the one who made this beautiful result?" He called all those who needed to effect the change and it was done immediately. Now I was standing on my right!

The end of the story was that "*Mephibosheth dwelt in Jerusalem.*"

(2 Samuel 9:13). "Jerusalem" means *land of peace*. The Covenant will not only bring you out of Lodebar- the land of barrenness, it will give you access to God and restore all that is yours. It will also put you in Jerusalem, the land of peace, a land where nothing is missing and nothing is broken. That is what is in store for you through the Covenant that you have with God in Christ.

God does not meet you at the point of your need,
He meets you at the point of your faith.