

Receiving Mercy And Finding GRACE!

Heb. 4:16 (ESV) - Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

2 Samuel 9:1-13 (ESV)

1 And David said, "Is there still anyone left of the house of Saul, that I may show him kindness for Jonathan's sake?"

2 Now there was a servant of the house of Saul whose name was Ziba, and they called him to David. And the king said to him, "Are you Ziba?" And he said, "I am your servant."

3 And the king said, "Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God to him?" Ziba said to the king, "There is still a son of Jonathan; he is crippled in his feet."

4 The king said to him, "Where is he?" And Ziba said to the king, "He is in the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar."

5 Then King David sent and brought him from the house of Machir the son of Ammiel, at Lo-debar.

6 And Mephibosheth the son of Jonathan, son of Saul, came to David and fell on his face and paid homage. And David said, "Mephibosheth!" And he answered, "Behold, I am your servant."

7 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."

8 And he paid homage and said, "What is your servant, that you should show regard for a dead dog such as I?"

9 Then the king called Ziba, Saul's servant, and said to him, "All that belonged to Saul and to all his house I have given to your master's grandson.

10 And you and your sons and your servants shall till the land for him and shall bring in the produce, that your master's grandson may have bread to eat. But Mephibosheth your master's grandson shall always eat at my table." Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

11 Then Ziba said to the king, "According to all that my lord the king commands his servant, so will your servant do." So, Mephibosheth ate at David's table, like one of the king's sons.

12 And Mephibosheth had a young son, whose name was Mica. And all who lived in Ziba's house became Mephibosheth's servants.

13 So Mephibosheth lived in Jerusalem, for he ate always at the king's table. Now he was lame in both his feet.

Mercy = When you deserve to get a beating, but you don't!

Grace = When you deserve to get a beating but you get blessed instead!

Mercy = When You don't get what you really deserve!

Grace = When you get what Jesus really deserves!

MERCY is an ATTRIBUTE of God's character!

GRACE is a GIFT offered to us because of God's character!

The natural question is, "Why does God allow these people to die?"

But the better question is this...

Why does God allow anyone at all to LIVE!

ALL have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God!

And the wages of sin is DEATH!

Death and hell is our default destination!

I. Give God the reigns!

Revelation 22:1 (ESV) - Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

GRACE = God's favor that is unearned, undeserved and unrepayable as well as God's empowerment to live a life pleasing to Him. (The divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life)

2 Tim. 2:1 ... be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

1 Pet. 4:10 ... as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

2 Pet. 3:18 - But grow in grace, ...

Rev. 22:21 - The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Vs.3 - And the king said, "Is there not still someone of the house of Saul, that I may show the kindness of God to him?"

II. Reach the end of yourself!

1. God's grace remembers you!

Ziba = Station

God's motivation to reach us is pure grace!

2. God's grace pursues you!

Lo-Debar – "no pasture" barren, desolate place, hiding place, destitute place.

3. God's grace carries you!

2 Cor. 12:9 ... "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

III. Abandon your crippled past!

- 1. Abandon a crippled life!*
- 2. Abandon a crippled (victim) mentality!*

IV. Come back to your God given identity!

God wants to move you from your "Condition" to your "Position"!

- 1. It's a royal family position!*

Vs. 11 - "So Mephibosheth ate at David's table like one of the king's sons".

God's grace won't just make us his servants or just the royal priesthood, but SONS and DAUGHTERS of God!

This was a position of fellowship. (personal communion)

- 2. It's a continuous position!*

Vs. 7c - "you will ALWAYS eat at my table".

With that POSITION comes the King's PROVISION!

v. Embrace what you could never pay for!

vs. 7b - "for I will surely show you kindness for the sake of your father Jonathan"

Grace calls us to LIVE IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF ANOTHER!

Heb. 4:16 (ESV) - Let us then with CONFIDENCE draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Rom. 6:14 (ESV) - For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are NOT UNDER LAW but under GRACE.