

"DAVID REMEMBERS A PROMISE"

WE STUDIED LAST WEEK ABOUT THE TIME WHEN DAVID WAS MADE THE KING OF ALL ISRAEL. GOD HAD TOLD DAVID WHEN IT WAS TIME TO GO TO HEBRON AND BECOME THE NEW KING OF ISRAEL (AFTER SAUL DIED).

THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT THE LORD TOOK CARE OF DAVID WHEREVER DAVID WENT, (II SAMUEL 8:14) AND DAVID RULED OVER ALL THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.

ONE DAY AFTER DAVID WAS MADE KING, HE THOUGHT ABOUT JONATHAN. DAVID SAID, "IS THERE ANYONE STILL ALIVE FROM SAUL AND JONATHAN'S FAMILY? I WANT TO SHOW HIM KINDNESS ^{AND THE LOVE OF GOD} BECAUSE OF MY FRIENDSHIP WITH JONATHAN."

DAVID REMEMBERED THE PROMISE HE MADE TO JONATHAN BEFORE JONATHAN DIED. YEARS HAD PASSED SINCE DAVID HAD MADE THAT PROMISE TO JONATHAN, BUT DAVID WAS CAREFUL TO REMEMBER THAT HE HAD PROMISED JONATHAN TO BE KIND TO HIS FAMILY.

AS DAVID SAT REMEMBERING HIS FRIEND JONATHAN, HE WONDERED IF JONATHAN EVER HAD ANY CHILDREN.

THERE WAS A MAN NAMED "ZIBA" WHO HAD BEEN A SERVANT TO SAUL WHEN SAUL WAS KING. DAVID SENT FOR ZIBA. WHEN

ZIBA GOT THERE, DAVID ASKED HIM, "IS THERE ANYONE STILL ALIVE FROM SAUL AND JONATHAN'S FAMILY?"

ZIBA TOLD DAVID, "JONATHAN'S SON NAMED MEPHIBOSHETH IS LIVING IN LODEBAR. HE IS CRIPPLED."

KING DAVID SENT FOR MEPHIBOSHETH. WHEN MEPHIBOSHETH CAME TO SEE DAVID, HE BOWED DOWN IN FRONT OF DAVID.

DAVID TOLD MEPHIBOSHETH, "DO NOT BE AFRAID; I WILL SURELY SHOW YOU KINDNESS BECAUSE YOUR FATHER WAS MY FRIEND. I WILL GIVE YOU THE LAND THAT USED TO BELONG TO YOUR GRANDFATHER SAUL; AND I WILL LET YOU LIVE HERE ALL YOUR LIFE. YOU WILL BE FED MEALS AT MY TABLE ALL YOUR LIFE."

DAVID GAVE MEPHIBOSHETH SERVANTS (36 SERVANTS—ZIBA, ZIBA'S 15 SONS, AND 20 OTHER SERVANTS).

DAVID TOOK CARE OF MEPHIBOSHETH AND LOVED HIM LIKE ONE OF HIS OWN SONS. DAVID REMEMBERED HIS PROMISE TO JONATHAN.