

Crowned with Loving-Kindness

Mephibosheth would spend the rest of his days in Jerusalem, resting securely in the king's presence, feasting on his faithfulness. As he dined at the king's table, his brokenness seemed to fade away. **"Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold I make all things new.'"** (Revelation 21:5, NKJV).

At the king's table, bread was broken. Fellowship took place as time was set apart to share lives and to be refueled for the day. Read Acts 3:19b.

What sort of importance do you place on fellowshiping with the King?

Fellowship equals companionship. What do you desire in a companion?

A companion is "one that accompanies another, one that is closely connected with something similar, and one employed to live with and serve another."¹ A companion offers security, comfort, understanding, reassurance, and help.

What does Proverbs 18:24 tell us about the difference in friendship and Christ's companionship? _____

"Forget Not All His Benefits"

Read Psalm 103:1-5. List the benefits found only in a relationship with Christ.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

¹ Merriam-Webster, Inc: *Merriam-Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary*. 9th ed. Springfield, Mass., U.S.A. : Merriam-Webster, 1985, c1983

David began the Psalm by declaring, “**Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name.**” Read Mark 12:30. What does “all that is within me” include?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Record Philippians 4:19. _____

What do you think about this claim? Have you ever gone in want? Has He supplied all your needs—heart, mind, soul, and strength? _____

Continual fellowship with the Lord not only supplies the needs of your innermost being—emotional, intellectual, spiritual, and physical—it satisfies your wants and desires, wishes and passions.

Read Psalm 145:14-21.

Be Filled

Our text, 2 Samuel 9:1-13, states four times that Mephibosheth would not only sit at the king’s table, but that he would *eat bread* at the king’s table.

Read Luke 14:15-24. How have you justified a lack of fellowship with the Lord?

Have you allowed a lack of time (v.18), work (v.19), or family (v.20) to keep you from forming the sort of relationship you would like with Him? If it were not for these things, what would your relationship with Him look like? _____

Read Isaiah 55:1-3. What will never satisfy? What instructions are you given that will fill your soul abundantly? _____

Let’s look at this in action. Read John 6:1-14. What were the people instructed to do so that Christ could satisfy their needs? (v.10). _____

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Describe their “filling” according to Ephesians 3:20. _____

Would this abundant “filling” last forever... even to the next day? What must they do to be filled all over again? Consider John 6:57 and John 15:1-17. _____

Read Matthew 5:6, Psalm 107:9, John 4:13-14, and Isaiah 58:11. Who are those who will never hunger or thirst again? _____

Although you can not see, touch, or feel Him, do you believe that Christ can be the Companion in your life (1 Peter 1:8)? Why or why not? _____

Can you see the importance of *sitting* and *eating* continually at the King’s table? Maybe you’ve lost the hunger or thirst you once had for God. Maybe you’ve failed to guard your time of fellowship with Him and have found yourself searching and striving for the companionship and satisfaction only He can give. Hosea 11:4 may offer you hope.

What does this verse tell you of God’s willingness to meet you where you are? _____

The Crown

Our King will not only meet our present needs and desires, but our future needs and desires as well. He has gone before us to prepare a place that will indeed be above all we can ask or think (John 14:7). Mephibosheth would live the rest of his days in the earthly Jerusalem, but we will live for eternity in the place prepared for us—the heavenly Jerusalem.

Turn to Revelation 7:15-17. List every benefit of dwelling before the throne.

What could be greater than receiving comfort from your Lord and King! Can you imagine placing your hand in His, feeling the scar that allowed you to be in this place? It is by this same hand that you are led and satisfied; every tear that falls from your eyes is wiped away.

Chapters 21 and 22 of Revelation tell a story of new beginnings. Our life began like Mephibosheth’s—broken from a fall—a fall that separated us from the glorious presence of God. But one day, very soon, we shall dwell continually in His presence again. **“Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”** (Revelation 7:10, NKJV). Read Revelation 21:1- 22:5.

Describe what it will be like to have your King at your side continually. _____

At the table of the Lord, you will no longer see your brokenness, flaws and inadequacies; you will be looking upon your constant Companion who was there every time you needed Him! Forget not all His benefits! Wear His loving-kindness and tender mercies like a crown! You have been forgiven, healed, redeemed, loved, satisfied, and given new life! Reign in life with Him (Romans 5:17) and rest for eternity in His presence (Revelation 21:4).

Luke 14:15 says, **“Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the kingdom of God!”** (NKJV).

In closing, read Revelation 3:11-12.