

2 Samuel 16:1-14 **Ziba Helped David – Shimei Cursed David**

Ziba, Mephibosheth's Servant brought supplies to David

¹ When David was a little past the top of the mountain, there was Ziba the servant of Mephibosheth, who met him with a couple of saddled donkeys, and on them two hundred loaves of bread, one hundred clusters of raisins, one hundred summer fruits, and a skin of wine. ² And the king said to Ziba, "What do you mean to do with these?"

So Ziba said, "The donkeys are for the king's household to ride on, the bread and summer fruit for the young men to eat, and the wine for those who are faint in the wilderness to drink."

³ Then the king said, "And where is your master's son?"

And Ziba said to the king, "Indeed he is staying in Jerusalem, for he said, 'Today the house of Israel will restore the kingdom of my father to me.'"

⁴ So the king said to Ziba, "Here, all that belongs to Mephibosheth is yours."

And Ziba said, "I humbly bow before you, that I may find favor in your sight, my lord, O king!"

Shimei Cursed David

⁵ Now when King David came to Bahurim, there was a man from the family of the house of Saul, whose name was Shimei the son of Gera, coming from there. He came out, cursing continuously as he came. ⁶ And he threw stones at David and at all the servants of King David. And all the people and all the mighty men were on his right hand and on his left.

⁷ Also Shimei said thus when he cursed: "Come out! Come out! You bloodthirsty man, you rogue! ⁸ The Lord has brought upon you all the blood of the house of Saul, in whose place you have reigned; and the Lord has delivered the kingdom into the hand of Absalom your son. So now you are caught in your own evil, because you are a bloodthirsty man!"

⁹ Then Abishai the son of Zeruiah said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please, let me go over and take off his head!"

¹⁰ But the king said, "What have I to do with you, you sons of Zeruiah? So let him curse, because the Lord has said to him, 'Curse David.' Who then shall say, 'Why have you done so?'"

¹¹ And David said to Abishai and all his servants, "See how my son who came from my own body seeks my life. How much more now may this Benjamite? Let him alone, and let him curse; for so the Lord has ordered him. ¹² It may be that the Lord will look on my affliction, and that the Lord will repay me with good for his cursing this day."

¹³ And as David and his men went along the road, Shimei went along the hillside opposite him and cursed as he went, threw stones at him and kicked up dust. ¹⁴ Now the king and all the people who were with him became weary; so they refreshed themselves there.

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Facts Revealed:

Ziba, Mephibosheth's Servant brought supplies to David [2 Samuel 16:1-4]

- ✧ Ziba, wanting to gain favor with the king brought him supplies for his journey into the wilderness.
- ✧ Ziba was the servant of Saul in charge of all that pertained to Mephibosheth. [2 Samuel 9:1-11]
- ✧ Mephibosheth, was the son of Jonathan David's best friend, who was crippled when news came of the death of Saul and his son Jonathan, and in her haste the nurse dropped Mephibosheth and he became crippled in both feet. David according to his covenant with Jonathan took Mephibosheth in and made him as one of the king's sons caring for him and he ate at the king's table. [1 Samuel 20:11-17, 23:16-18, 2 Samuel 4:4, 9:10-13]
- ✧ Apparently Ziba expected David to return to the throne in the end of the skirmish with Absalom and he was seeking the king's favor.
- ✧ Ziba explained that Mephibosheth expected the throne to return to himself as the heir of Saul as his reason for remaining in Jerusalem. [2 Samuel 16:3]
- ✧ Later on Mephibosheth told quite a different story. [2 Samuel 19:24-30]
- ✧ David, not knowing the truth, granted Ziba all that belongs to Mephibosheth. [2 Samuel 16:4]
- ✧ Ziba said, "I humbly bow before you, that I may find favor in your sight, my lord, O king!" [2 Samuel 16:4]

Shimei Curses David [2 Samuel 16:5-14]

- ✧ Shimei from Bahurim of the tribe of Benjamin, son of Gera, a relative of Saul, came out cursing David, throwing rocks at David and his people, and kicking dust in the air from the safety of a ridge above the road David and his people were using in their flight from Absalom. [2 Samuel 16:5-8]
- ✧ Abishai the son of Zeruiah (David's sister) said to the king, "Why should this dead dog curse my lord the king? Please, let me go over and take off his head!" [2 Samuel 16:9]
- ✧ David restrained Abishai because he viewed all that was happening to be ordained by God because of his sin regarding Uriah and Bathsheba. [2 Samuel 16:10]
- ✧ David was hoping that the Lord would see his affliction and have compassion on him.
- ✧ In any event David placed the whole thing in the hands of God trusting the Lord to make it come our right.
- ✧ David and all the people who were with him became weary; so they refreshed themselves there at Bahurim.