

# **THE HOPE**

## **Part 3: Establishing A Different Identity**

### **TEXT: EPHESIANS 1:18-19 NKJ**

#### **OUR SOLID IDENTITY**

- We are called to a new higher identity (*Colossians 2:6-7 NKJ*)
  1. Our roots are to be in Christ
  2. We identify by faith (*Ephesians 1:3-7 NKJ*)
- Our new higher identity in Christ
  1. Not subject to external conditions / Higher than physical realities
  2. Becomes the basis for our functioning in God's kingdom (*Colossians 3:9-13 NKJ*)

#### **A PICTURE OF AN IDENTITY CHANGE (2 Samuel 9:1-5 NKJ)**

- David's desire
  1. To show kindness to Saul's house - even though Saul had been an enemy
  2. A desire based on his love for Jonathan (Saul's son)
- David's covenant with Jonathan
  1. Was not something that was entered into lightly
  2. Would not only include Jonathan, but his entire household
- David brought Mephibosheth out
  1. And Mep had nothing to offer David
  2. David took Mep from a negative situation
- A picture of God's love
  1. God's desire / love for mankind
  2. God initiated the move to bring us to Himself (*Romans 5:6 NKJ*)
  3. God took us from a negative situation (*Ephesians 2:11-13 NKJ*)

#### **CHALLENGES TO AN IDENTITY CHANGE (2 Samuel 9:6-8 NKJ)**

- Mephibosheth had the wrong image of David - evidenced by his fear
  1. He had grown up thinking David was his enemy - not true
  2. He may have blamed David for his being lame
- Mephibosheth had the wrong image of himself
  1. Referred to himself as a dead dog
- Our image of God and of ourselves has to be based on truth
  1. He is for us and is not our problem (*Romans 8:31-32 NKJ*)
  2. We are who and what He says we are (*1 Corinthians 1:29-31 NKJ*)