

# 2 Samuel 13:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And she answered him, Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: do not thou this folly.

## Analysis

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**And she answered him, Nay, my brother, do not force me; for no such thing ought to be done in Israel: do not thou this folly.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Amnon and Tamar, emphasizing unresolved sin, family breakdown. Amnon's rape of Tamar and Absalom's revenge illustrate how unresolved sin metastasizes into family-wide dysfunction. David's failure to discipline Amnon (possibly from guilt over his own sexual sin) enabled further tragedy. Hebrew terminology emphasizes Tamar's desolation and Absalom's calculated hatred. The narrative demonstrates intergenerational sin consequences and the necessity of proper justice administration.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 13 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding unresolved sin, family breakdown provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid

anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of unresolved sin, family breakdown?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

## Interlinear Text

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וַתֹּאמֶר	לֹא	אֶחָי	אֶל	תַּעֲנֵנִי	כִּי	לֹא
And she answered		him Nay my brother		do not force		
H559	H0	H408	H408	H6031	H3588	H3808
תַּעֲשֶׂה	כִּי	בְּיִשְׂרָאֵל	אֶל	תַּעֲשֶׂה	אֶת	
do	me for no such thing ought	in Israel		do		
H6213	H3651	H3478	H408	H6213	H853	
הַנֶּבֶל	הַזֹּאת:					
not thou this folly						
H5039	H2063					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Leviticus 20:17** (Parallel theme): And if a man shall take his sister, his father's daughter, or his mother's daughter, and see her nakedness, and she see his nakedness; it is a wicked thing; and they shall be cut off in the sight of their people: he hath uncovered his sister's nakedness; he shall bear his iniquity.

**Judges 20:6** (References Israel): And I took my concubine, and cut her in pieces, and sent her throughout all the country of the inheritance of Israel: for they have committed lewdness and folly in Israel.

**Judges 19:23** (Parallel theme): And the man, the master of the house, went out unto them, and said unto them, Nay, my brethren, nay, I pray you, do not so wickedly; seeing that this man is come into mine house, do not this folly.

**Genesis 34:7** (References Israel): And the sons of Jacob came out of the field when they heard it: and the men were grieved, and they were very wroth, because he had wrought folly in Israel in lying with Jacob's daughter; which thing ought not to be done.

**Leviticus 18:11** (Parallel theme): The nakedness of thy father's wife's daughter, begotten of thy father, she is thy sister, thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.

**Leviticus 18:9** (Parallel theme): The nakedness of thy sister, the daughter of thy father, or daughter of thy mother, whether she be born at home, or born abroad, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover.