

2 Samuel 13:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her.

Analysis

Howbeit he would not hearken unto her voice: but, being stronger than she, forced her, and lay with her.

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

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

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

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

וְלֹא אֶ	אָבָה הֵ	לִשְׁמָע עַ	בְּקוֹלָהּ הֵ	וְיִיזֵק קַ
H3808	Howbeit he would	not hearken	unto her voice	but being stronger
	H14	H8085	H6963	H2388
מִמֶּנָּה	וַיַּעַבְדָּהּ	וַיִּשָּׁכַב בַּ	אֶתְהָ:	
H4480	than she forced	her and lay	H854	
	H6031	H7901		

Additional Cross-References

2 Samuel 12:11 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.

