

# 2 Samuel 13:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Absalom spake unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad: for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.

## Analysis

**And Absalom spake unto his brother Amnon neither good nor bad: for Absalom hated Amnon, because he had forced his sister Tamar.**

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

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## 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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כִּי טַב וְבַעֲדֵךְ לְמַכְעֵב אָמֵן וְלֹא אָבְשָׁלוֹם דָּבָר רְאֵלָא  
H3808 **spake** H1696      H53 **And Absalom** H5973      H5973 **Ammon** H550      H7451 **nor bad** H5704      H2896 **neither good** H3588

עָבֵה הָאָשָׁר דָּבָר עַל אָמֵן וְלֹא אָבְשָׁלוֹם שָׁנָא  
H8130 **hated** H53 **And Absalom** H853      H550 **Ammon** H5921      H1697 **because** H834      H6031 **he had forced**

וְאַתָּה תְּמַרְתָּ אֶחָתָה  
H853 **Tamar** H8559      H269 **his sister**

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 31:24** (Good): And God came to Laban the Syrian in a dream by night, and said unto him, Take heed that thou speak not to Jacob either good or bad.

**1 John 3:15** (Parallel theme): Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

**Genesis 24:50** (Good): Then Laban and Bethuel answered and said, The thing proceedeth from the LORD: we cannot speak unto thee bad or good.

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