

2 Samuel 13:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother, answered and said, Let not my lord suppose that they have slain all the young men the king's sons; for Amnon only is dead: for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined from the day that he forced his sister Tamar.

Analysis

And Jonadab, the son of Shimeah David's brother, answered and said, Let not my lord suppose that they have slain all the young men the king's sons; for Amnon only is dead: for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined from the day that he 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

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

אָל יִאָמֶר דָּוִד וְאָמַר יְהוָה
answered And Jonadab sons of Shimeah brother David's and said H408
H6030 H3122 H1121 H8093 H251 H1732 H559

בְּאָמַר לְגֻלְּלָא בְּנֵי בְּנֵי אֲדֹנֵי יְהוָה
and said Let not my lord all the young men sons the king's H4428
H559 H113 H853 H3605 H5288 H1121

עַל כִּי מֵת אָמַן וְלֹבֶד
only is dead for Ammon only is dead H5921
H4191 H3588 H550 H4191

שׁוֹמֵם הִכִּית הַאֲבָשְׁלוֹם
for by the appointment of Absalom this hath been determined H7760
H6310 H53 H1961

אֲחַתָּתוֹ תִּמְרֵא אֵת עֲנֵת וְמִזְמָר
from the day that he forced Tamar his sister H269
H3117 H6031 H853 H8559