

# 2 Samuel 14:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the woman said, Wherefore then hast thou thought such a thing against the people of God? for the king doth speak this thing as one which is faulty, in that the king doth not fetch home again his banished.

## Analysis

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**And the woman said, Wherefore then hast thou thought such a thing against the people of God? for the king doth speak this thing as one which is faulty, in that the king doth not fetch home again his banished.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Absalom's Return, emphasizing incomplete reconciliation. Joab's elaborate scheme to restore Absalom demonstrates human wisdom that undermines divine purposes. The partial reconciliation (Absalom returns but doesn't see David's face) proves insufficient for genuine restoration. Theological themes include the inadequacy of human reconciliation methods apart from genuine repentance, the danger of manipulation even for apparently good ends, and the necessity of complete rather than partial restoration.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 14 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 incomplete reconciliation 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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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## **Study Questions**

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1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of incomplete reconciliation?
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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כֹּחַ אֶת	חָשׁ בָּתָּהּ	וְלָמָּה	הָאִשָּׁה הַ	וַיֹּאמֶר
H2063	H2803	H4100	H802	H559
	Wherefore then hast thou thought		And the woman	said
הִדְבָּר הַזֶּה	וְהִמְדִּיכָהּ	אֱלֹהֵי יִם	עַם	עַל
H1697	H1696	H430	H5971	H5921
this thing	doth speak	of God	against the people	such a thing
הִמְדִּיכָהּ	חָשׁ יִב	לְבַלְתָּ י	כְּאִשָּׁה	הַזֶּה
H4428	H7725	H1115	H818	H2088
for the king	doth not fetch home again		as one which is faulty	
נִדְחָוֹ:	אֶת			
H5080	H853			
his banished				

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Samuel 12:7** (Kingdom): And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;

**Judges 20:2** (References God): And the chief of all the people, even of all the tribes of Israel, presented themselves in the assembly of the people of God, four hundred thousand footmen that drew sword.