

LIFE OF DAVID—HANDOUT 18

2 Samuel 13

“The Rape of Tamar,” James T. Dennison, Jr. (see kerux.com)

Reference: Shimon Bar-Efrat, *Narrative Art in the Bible*, pp. 239-82.

Structural Patterns:

- A. Amnon in love with Tamar (vv. 1-2)
- B. Intervention of Jonadab (3-5)
- C. Tamar’s arrival (6-9a)
- D. Amnon’s servants ordered out (9b)
- E. Amnon commands Tamar to lie with him; she pleads (11-14a)
- X. Amnon rapes Tamar; loves turns to hate (14b-15)
- E’. Amnon commands Tamar to leave; she pleads (15b-16)
- D’. Amnon’s servant recalled (17)
- C’. Tamar’s departure (18-19)
- B’. Intervention of Absalom (20)
- A’. Absalom hates Amnon (21-22)

(above per J. P. Fokkelman and G. P. Ridout)

Action

Reaction

Inclusio

Inversion

Love → Hate → Love → Hate

Duplication (vv. 23-39)

?Implicit Bracket:

2 Samuel 14

Woman of Tekoa’s Tale

Characterization of Joab