

# Yet Doth He Devise Means That His

by F.B. Meyer

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*God's way of forgiveness requires penitence and confession, while David's inadequate means led to disastrous consequences.*

**Scripture:** 2 Samuel 14:14, Luke 15:21

**Topics:** "Forgiveness", "Repentance"

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## Description

F.B. Meyer emphasizes the importance of true repentance and accountability in his sermon, using King David's inadequate response to Absalom's return as a cautionary tale. David's failure to demand confession and penitence from his son led to disastrous consequences, undermining justice and authority. Meyer warns parents against condoning disobedience in their children without requiring acknowledgment of wrongdoing. He contrasts David's flawed approach with God's perfect plan for forgiveness, which necessitates the work of Christ and genuine repentance. Ultimately, the sermon highlights that true restoration requires acknowledgment of sin and the transformative power of God's grace.

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## Transcript

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banished be not expelled from Him. 2 Sam. xiv. 14.

THE means that David devised were really inadequate. He allowed his heart to dictate to his royal sense of justice and rectitude, and permitted Absalom to return to his country and home without one word of confession, one symptom of penitence. The king was overmastered by the father; and the result was disastrous. It shook the respect of his people, undermined the foundations of just government, slackened the bands of every family in the land, and confirmed Absalom in his wilful and obstinate career. "What!" said he to himself, "does my father bid me come back without conditions? Does he demand no confession or reparation? Then he condones my sin."

Let parents be warned. If your children disobey, and violate the rules of your home, you have no right to treat them as you did before, until they have owned their sin. You must insist on penitence, confession, and reparation, though it take hours or days or even weeks of suffering and pleading to bring it about.

Into what relief does David's mistake throw God's way of forgiveness and salvation! Had he acted as David, and as so many wish us to believe, He would have reinstated the human family in the Paradise of

his love without waiting for the work of the Mediator, or the confession of the prodigal. By the arbitrary exercise of his sovereign will He might have wiped out the record of our sins %without our concurrence. But it would have been to the irreparable undoing of man. Hence it behoved Christ to suffer, by his blood making an atonement for our sins, and by his Spirit bringing us to penitence and confession.

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