

**Psalm 76 — "Yahweh *The Warrior Is The Victor!*"**

Ps 76 showcases God's power and glory that evokes worship and awe from His people. He is the Warrior-Judge! He is indefeatable, Unconquerable, Always Victorious & Triumphant! He's already decreed & determined the end — and He wins & receives glory.

**Psalm 76** reflects on the historical account of Sennacherib and the Assyrians attacking Jerusalem during the reign of King Hezekiah — in 701 BC (2 Kings 18-19; 2 Chron 32; Isa 36-39).

We can have different "invaders" knocking at our doors in life as we follow God —

- **Physical** invaders —
- **Spiritual** invaders —
- **Emotional** invaders —
- **Ecclesiological** invaders —
  - ❖Ps 20.5 - we will sing for joy over your victory!
  - ❖Ps 98.1 - his right hand & holy arm have gained the victory for him!

**THESIS** — **Divided by the *Selah*'s**, we'll study this "Victory Song" as 3 responses for us as we see Yahweh *The Warrior* who is *The Victor!*"

## I. KNOW! GOD'S GLORY (1-3)

## II. BOW: GOD'S VICTORY! (4-9)

"As the Lord's mercies are new every morning toward his people, so his anger is new every morning against the wicked!" (Matthew Henry)

1. Yahweh is Light (v.4a) [resplendent; radiant; glorious; shining!]
2. Majestic (v.4)
3. Warrior (v.5)
4. Victor (v.6)
5. Fearful (v.7)
6. Wrathful (v.7-9)
7. Deliverer (v.9)

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verse 7 — CAN ANYONE STAND BEFORE THIS GOD WHEN HE'S ANGRY?

- Nahum 1:6; Rev 6:12-17\*\* [gospel hope: Rom 5.1-5 & Jude 24]
- O Fear this Judge! O Hide in Christ! He is a safe Haven!

**III. PRAISE: GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY! (10-12)**

God is to receive praise -

- even from his enemies and their rebellious plots (v.10)
- from his people (v.11)
- and even from princes and all kings (v.12)

***Come back to the setting of Ps 76, how did Hezekiah respond to all this invading wrath of men?***

1. he humbled himself (tore his clothes; 2 Kings 19.1)
2. he immediately went to God (went to the house (2 Kings 19.1))
3. he heard from God thru the prophet (2 Kings 19.2-3)
4. he was not to be afraid at all (2 Kings 19.6)
5. he was to believe the promise of God (God will put a spirit in him; he'll return home and die there; 2 Kings 19.7, 32-34)
6. he prayed urgently to Yahweh (2 Kings 19.14-19)

Joachim Neander (1680)

Praise to the Lord, Who, when tempests their **warfare** are waging,  
Who, when the elements Madly around thee are raging,  
Biddeth them cease, Turneth their fury to peace,  
Whirlwinds and waters assuaging.

Praise to the Lord, Who, when darkness of sin is abounding,  
Who, when the **godless** Do triumph, all virtue confounding,  
Sheddeth His **light**, Chaseth the horrors of night,  
Saints with His mercy surrounding.

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## OUR GOD IS THE WARRIOR

Our God is a warrior God. After making it through the Red Sea unharmed, Moses and the Israelites celebrate God's great victory over Egypt with a song of praise (Ex. 14:1-15:21). Specifically, the Lord is called a "man of war" — a warrior who fights for the good of His people. It is in the Almighty's nature to wage war against those who would rise up against His name and against His children. We can rejoice in that our covenant-keeping God will never leave us or forsake us, as His outstretched arm is ever present to defeat the enemies of His kingdom (Deut. 5:15; Heb. 13:5).

God's weapons are indeed powerful. For example, with His right hand He is able to turn the raging sea to His advantage (Ex. 15:4-10). He is sovereign over the elements and bends them as He wishes to destroy those who would oppose Him. The displays of this power also amount to a form of psychological warfare. Edom, Moab, Philistia, and Canaan all trembled with fear when they heard of the Lord's salvation of Israel (vv. 13-16). In this new covenant era, Satan and his minions fear the power of Christ that manifests itself among Christians through the Holy Spirit (Mark 5:1-10; 2 Tim. 1:7); thus, we should not be surprised that the Enemy will do everything in his power to silence the witness of the church. But Jesus fights for us, wielding the sword of the gospel to convert the nations, turn foe into friend, and make the impenitent ripe for the outpouring of His wrath (Acts 9:1-31; Rev. 19:11-21).

Our Lord wields His power on our behalf, so we can truly claim it is our strength (Ps. 28:7). Him alone do we rely on, not on our own might. Puritan William Gurnall writes, "The strength of the general in other hosts lies in his troops . . . but in the army of saints, the strength of every saint, yea, of the whole host of saints, lies in the Lord of hosts" (*The Christian in Complete Armour*, p. 18).

- Ligonier <<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/divine-warrior>>

### CFBC MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENTS

#### *Review and Re-affirmation:*

As a follower of Jesus Christ, I joyfully and thoughtfully enter into a relationship of mutual edification,<sup>1</sup> fellowship,<sup>2</sup> and accountability<sup>3</sup> with the other members of this body. I have repented of my sin, <sup>4</sup> trusted in Christ as my Savior and Lord,<sup>5</sup> and been baptized as a true believer.<sup>6</sup>

I will faithfully participate with this church in worship, prayer, study, fellowship, and the ordinances of baptism and communion.<sup>7</sup> I will use my spiritual gifts for the common good.<sup>8</sup> Through my involvement, and even sacrifice, I will seek to illustrate to my family and a watching world the immense significance of life in the body of Christ.<sup>9</sup>

#### FOOTNOTE REFERENCES

- 1 Romans 14:19; 1 Corinthians 12:7; 14:26; Ephesians 4:16, 29; 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- 2 Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 1:9; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 4:1-3; Philippians 2:1-4
- 3 Proverbs 27:17; Matthew 18:15-17; Galatians 6:1; 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15; James 5:16; 2 John 8
- 4 Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:15; Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 17:30; 26:20; 2 Corinthians 7:10
- 5 John 3:16; Acts 4:12; 16:30-31; Romans 10:9-10
- 6 Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; 8:36-38; 10:47-48
- 7 Matthew 28:19; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:41-47; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Hebrews 10:24-25
- 8 Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 18-27; Ephesians 4:11-16
- 9 Matthew 6:19-21, 24-26; 16:24; Hebrews 10:24-25; James 4:1-5; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 John 2:15-17

**Psalm 76 — "Yahweh The Warrior Is The Victor!"****O WORSHIP THE KING**

O worship the King, all glorious above,  
 O gratefully sing His power and His love;  
 Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
 Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,  
 Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,  
 His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
 And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
 In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;  
 Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
 Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

**IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE GOD ONLY WISE**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
 in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
 most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
 almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
 thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
 all praise we would render, O help us to see  
 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

**Psalm 76: Psalter**

Tune: "O for a thousand tongues to sing"

In Judah God of old was known;  
 His name in Israel great;  
 In Salem stood his holy throne,  
 And Zion was his seat.

From Zion went his dreadful word,  
 And broke the threat'ning spear,  
 The bow, the arrows, and the sword,  
 And crush'd th' Assyrian war

At thy rebuke, O Jacob's God,  
 Both horse and chariot fell:  
 Who knows the terrors of thy rod?  
 Thy vengeance who can tell?

When God in his own sov'reign ways  
 Comes down to save the opprest,  
 The wrath of men shall work his praise,  
 And he'll restrain the rest

The thunder of his sharp rebuke  
 Our haughty foes shall feel;  
 For Jacob's God hath not forsook,  
 But dwells in Zion still.

— Isaac Watts, 1700s