

# Judges 7:21

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they stood every man in his place round about the camp:  
and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.

## Analysis

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The 300 maintained their positions: 'they stood every man in his place round about the camp: and all the host ran, and cried, and fled.' The Israelites didn't even need to fight—they simply stood with their torches and trumpets while the enemy self-destructed. The Midianite camp erupted in chaos—'ran, and cried, and fled'—describing panic-driven confusion. The threefold verbs emphasize the complete breakdown of order: running in fear, crying out in terror, fleeing in disorder. This was supernatural panic induced by God.

## Historical Context

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Military history records numerous instances of armies panicking and destroying themselves—the Syrians fleeing from phantom chariot sounds (2 Kings 7:6-7), the Philistines slaughtering each other when confused (1 Samuel 14:20), even the Canaanite forces at Sisera's defeat (Judges 4:15). Nighttime confusion, inability to distinguish friend from foe in darkness, and perception of overwhelming attack all contributed to catastrophic morale collapse. The Midianite coalition's multi-ethnic composition (Midianites, Amalekites, eastern peoples) complicated coordination during crisis.

## Related Passages

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**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does the 300 merely standing in place while God wins the battle illustrate Exodus 14:13-14's command to 'stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD'?
2. What does the enemy's self-destruction teach about how God can turn enemies against themselves?
3. When has God fought your battles while you simply maintained faithful obedience to His commands?

## Interlinear Text

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וַעֲמָדוּ	אֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל	תַּחַת יוֹ	סָבִיב	הַמִּחָנֶּה הַ
And they stood	every man	H8478	in his place round about	and all the host
H5975	H376		H5439	H4264
וַיָּרָץ	כָּל	הַמִּחָנֶּה הַ	וַיִּבְרַח	וַיִּפְּץ:
ran	H3605	and all the host	and cried	and fled
H7323		H4264	H7321	H5127

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 28:1** (Parallel theme): The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but the righteous are bold as a lion.