

# Psalms 76:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

There brake he the arrows of the bow, the shield, and the sword, and the battle. Selah.

## Analysis

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The psalm celebrates Jerusalem's security: "In Salem also is his tabernacle, and his dwelling place in Zion" (Hebrew *va-y-hi v-Shalem sukko u-m-onato v-Tzion*). "Salem" is poetic for Jerusalem (Genesis 14:18), meaning "peace." "Tabernacle" (Hebrew *sukkah*) and "dwelling place" (Hebrew *me-onah*) emphasize God's choice to dwell among His people. God's presence makes Zion secure—not walls, armies, or geography, but divine habitation. This anticipates John 1:14, Christ "tabernacled" among us.

## Historical Context

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God chose Jerusalem as His dwelling place under David and Solomon (2 Samuel 7, 1 Kings 8). This election made Jerusalem theoretically impregnable—God wouldn't let His house fall. Yet Israel's sin eventually nullified this protection (Jeremiah 7:4-15, Ezekiel 10-11). The true security was always conditional on covenant faithfulness. Christ becomes the ultimate temple where God dwells permanently (John 2:19-21).

## Related Passages

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

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's presence provide security that no physical fortress can match?
2. In what ways do Christians wrongly trust religious institutions or traditions rather than God's actual presence?
3. How does Christ as the true temple guarantee permanent divine presence with believers (Matthew 28:20)?

## Interlinear Text

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שָׁמָּה H8033	שֶׁבַר H7665	רֶשֶׁפִּי H7565	קֶשֶׁת H7198	מִגֶּן H4043	יָד רֶבֶב H2719
	There brake	he the arrows	of the bow	the shield	and the sword
וּמִלְחָמָה H4421	סֵלָה: H5542				
and the battle	Selah				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 46:9** (Parallel theme): He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.