

# Psalms 76:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou, even thou, art to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?

## Analysis

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The psalm declares: "Thou, even thou, art to be feared: and who may stand in thy sight when once thou art angry?" (Hebrew atah nora atah u-mi-ya-amod l-faneycha me-az appekha). The doubled "thou, even thou" emphasizes exclusivity—God alone deserves fear. "Who may stand" is rhetorical—none can endure divine anger. "When once thou art angry" warns of God's wrath. The verse inspires holy fear: if God opposes you, no defense exists. This drives believers to faith and unbelievers to flee God's wrath.

## Historical Context

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The rhetorical question "who may stand?" appears throughout Scripture (Psalm 130:3, Nahum 1:6, Malachi 3:2, Revelation 6:17). No one withstands God's wrath independently. Yet believers "stand" through Christ's righteousness (Romans 5:1-2, Ephesians 6:13). Hebrews 12:29 warns: "our God is a consuming fire." Yet Hebrews 4:16 invites believers to approach God's throne confidently through Christ.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. How does healthy fear of God (reverent awe) differ from servile terror?
2. What would it mean for God to be "angry" with you, and how does Christ's atonement address this?
3. How does standing in Christ's righteousness enable you to approach the holy God who is "to be feared"?

## Interlinear Text

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אתך הִ

H859

תִּירְאֵת כִּי

Thou even thou art to be feared

H3372

תִּירְאֵת כִּי

H859

יָתַם דְּ

and who may stand

H5975

לִפְנֵי יְ

H6440

מִן זֶ

H227

אָפָּנָה:

H639

in thy sight when once thou art angry

## Additional Cross-References

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**Nahum 1:6** (Parallel theme): Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.

**Psalms 2:12** (Parallel theme): Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

**Psalms 89:7** (Parallel theme): God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.