

# John 16:32

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

## Analysis

**Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come** (ἰδοὺ ἔρχεται ὥρα καὶ ἐλήλυθεν)—"The hour" (ἡ ὥρα) throughout John's Gospel refers to Jesus's passion—His arrest, trial, crucifixion, and glorification (John 2:4, 7:30, 12:23, 13:1, 17:1). The perfect tense "is now come" (ἐλήλυθεν) indicates it has arrived and is imminent.

**That ye shall be scattered, every man to his own** (ἴνα σκορπισθῆτε ἔκαστος εἰς τὰ ἴδια)—The verb "scattered" (σκορπισθῆτε/skorpisthēte) fulfills Zechariah 13:7: "Smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered" (quoted in Mark 14:27). Within hours, all the disciples would flee in terror (Matthew 26:56), abandoning Jesus.

**And shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me** (καὶ ἐμὲ μόνον ἀφῆτε· καὶ οὐκ εἰμὶ μόνος, ὅτι ὁ πατὴρ μετ' ἐμοῦ ἔστιν)—Despite human abandonment, Jesus affirms the Father's presence. Yet on the cross, even this communion would be eclipsed when Jesus bore sin and cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46). That absolute desolation—experiencing the full weight of divine wrath against sin—was the deepest suffering of Calvary.

## Historical Context

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The disciples' scattering fulfilled Old Testament prophecy and demonstrated the weakness of human resolve apart from the Spirit. Their courage returned only after resurrection and Pentecost (Acts 2-4). This pattern—failure under trial, restoration through grace—characterizes Christian experience. The Father's presence with Jesus, and Jesus's later promise of the Spirit's presence with believers (John 14:16-18), grounds Christian perseverance not in human strength but divine faithfulness.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus's prediction of the disciples' failure and His calm acceptance model grace toward our own spiritual weaknesses?
2. What does it mean that Jesus faced abandonment by both human disciples and (at the cross) the Father, and how does this shape our understanding of His suffering?
3. How does the promise of the Father's presence sustain you in times when human support fails?

## Interlinear Text

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ἰδού, ἔλήλυθεν ὥρα καὶ νῦν ἔληλυθεν ἦνα  
Behold come the hour and now come that  
G2400 G2064 G5610 G2532 G3568 G2064 G2443

σκορπισθῆτε ἔκαστος εἰς τὰ ἕδια καὶ ἐμὲ μόνος  
ye shall be scattered every man to his own and me alone  
G4650 G1538 G1519 G3588 G2398 G2532 G1691 G3441

ἀφῆτε· καὶ οὐκ εἰμὶ μόνος ὅτι ὁ πατὴρ μετ'  
shall leave and not I am alone because the Father with  
G863 G2532 G3756 G1510 G3441 G3754 G3588 G3962 G3326

ἐμοῦ ἔστιν  
me is  
G1700 G2076

## Additional Cross-References

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**Zechariah 13:7** (Parallel theme): Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, and against the man that is my fellow, saith the LORD of hosts: smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered: and I will turn mine hand upon the little ones.

**Matthew 26:31** (Parallel theme): Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.

**John 8:29** (Parallel theme): And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

**John 8:16** (Parallel theme): And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.

**Mark 14:27** (Parallel theme): And Jesus saith unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.

**Matthew 26:56** (Parallel theme): But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled.

**John 4:21** (Parallel theme): Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

**John 4:23** (Parallel theme): But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

**John 20:10** (Parallel theme): Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

**John 16:2** (Parallel theme): They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.