

John 16:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou?

Analysis

I go my way to him that sent me (ὑπάγω πρὸς τὸν πέμψαντά με, hypagō pros ton pempanta me)—the present tense hypagō (I am going) emphasizes the immediacy and certainty of Jesus's departure via cross, resurrection, and ascension. The Father is consistently described as 'the one having sent me' (perfect participle pempanta), underscoring Christ's mission and divine origin.

None of you asketh me, Whither goest thou?—Peter had asked this earlier (13:36), but now grief has silenced inquiry. Jesus gently rebukes their self-absorbed sorrow: instead of asking about His destination and purpose, they're consumed with their own loss. True discipleship requires looking beyond personal discomfort to Christ's glory and sovereign purposes. His 'going' was not tragedy but triumph—returning to the Father who sent Him.

Historical Context

This occurs chronologically after Peter's earlier question in John 13:36 ('Lord, whither goest thou?'). Hours had passed, and the disciples' initial curiosity had given way to overwhelming grief. Jesus was preparing them to understand that His departure—through crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension—was not defeat but the necessary path to Pentecost and the Spirit's coming.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. When has your sorrow over circumstances blinded you to God's larger purposes?
2. How does understanding Jesus's ascension to the Father transform your perspective on His 'absence' from earth?
3. What questions should you be asking Jesus about His work and will, rather than dwelling on your own discomfort?

Interlinear Text

νῦν	δὲ	ὑπάγεις	πρὸς	τὸν	πέμψαντά	με	καὶ	οὐδεὶς
now	But	I go my way	to	G3588	him that sent	me	and	none
G3568	G1161	G5217	G4314		G3992	G3165	G2532	G3762
ἐξ	ὑμῶν	ἔρωτᾷ	με	Ποῦ	ὑπάγεις			
of	you	asketh	me	Whither	I go my way			
G1537	G5216	G2065	G3165	G4226	G5217			

Additional Cross-References

John 13:36 (Parallel theme): Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards.

John 7:33 (Parallel theme): Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me.

John 16:28 (Parallel theme): I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.

John 17:4 (Parallel theme): I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

John 16:10 (Parallel theme): Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;

Hebrews 12:2 (Parallel theme): Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 1:3 (Parallel theme): Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

John 13:3 (Parallel theme): Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;