

# Zechariah 13:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

## Analysis

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Prophecy of shepherd struck, sheep scattered: '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.' Jesus quotes this predicting His crucifixion and disciples' desertion (Matthew 26:31, Mark 14:27): 'I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep shall be scattered.' The Hebrew 'ish amiti' (man who is My equal/companion) is remarkable—God calls the shepherd 'My equal,' indicating deity. Only Christ qualifies: fully God ('My equal') and fully human ('the man'). God commands the sword against His own shepherd—the Father striking the Son in our place (Isaiah 53:4, 10). The scattering occurred (Mark 14:50), but God's hand turned graciously to 'the little ones' (restoration, John 21).

## Historical Context

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Context includes judgment on false shepherds (11:15-17) and purifying remnant (13:8-9). But 13:7 speaks of the true Shepherd struck by divine judgment. Jesus's application (Matthew 26:31) confirms this is Messianic prophecy. On the cross, God's wrath against sin fell on Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21, Galatians 3:13). The disciples' scattering fulfilled the prophecy literally, but restoration followed resurrection (John 20-21, Acts 1-2). The 'little ones' may refer to disciples or

remnant of believers preserved through tribulation (Matthew 24:21-22, Revelation 12:13-17). This prophecy demonstrates the cross wasn't accidental but divinely ordained: God Himself commanded the sword against His co-equal Son to accomplish redemption.

## **Related Passages**

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

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

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

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## **Study Questions**

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1. How does understanding that God commanded the sword against His own Son deepen my appreciation for the cross?
2. When I'm 'scattered' by trials or failures, do I trust God will mercifully restore and gather me back?

## Interlinear Text

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חַבֵּר	עוֹרִי	עַל	הַרְעָה	וְעַל	גַּבְר
<b>O sword</b>	<b>Awake</b>	H5921	<b>against my shepherd</b>	H5921	<b>and against the man</b>
H2719	H5782		H7462		H1397
עִמִּיתִי	נֹאֵם	יְהוָה	צָבָא	אֶת	הַרְעָה
<b>that is my fellow</b>	<b>saith</b>	<b>the LORD</b>	<b>of hosts</b>	<b>smite</b>	<b>against my shepherd</b>
H5997	H5002	H3068	H6635	H5221	H7462
וְתִפּוֹץ יֵן	הַצֹּאֵן	וְהִשְׁבֵּתִי	יָדִי	עַל	
<b>shall be scattered</b>	<b>and the sheep</b>	<b>and I will turn</b>	<b>mine hand</b>	H5921	
H6327	H6629	H7725	H3027		
הַצִּעָרִים:					
<b>upon the little ones</b>					
H6819					

## Additional Cross-References

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**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 26:31** (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.

**Isaiah 40:11** (Parallel theme): He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

**Mark 14:50** (Parallel theme): And they all forsook him, and fled.

**John 16:32** (Parallel theme): 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.

**Ezekiel 37:24** (Parallel theme): And David my servant shall be king over them; and they all shall have one shepherd: they shall also walk in my judgments, and observe my statutes, and do them.

**Zechariah 11:7** (Parallel theme): And I will feed the flock of slaughter, even you, O poor of the flock. And I took unto me two staves; the one I called Beauty, and the other I called Bands; and I fed the flock.

**Micah 5:2** (Parallel theme): But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

**Revelation 1:8** (References Lord): I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

**Jeremiah 47:6** (Word): O thou sword of the LORD, how long will it be ere thou be quiet? put up thyself into thy scabbard, rest, and be still.