

## Scattered and Alone



Shortly before His arrest and crucifixion for all mankind, Jesus told His disciples in an upper room “Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that

VBS “20-20 Vision”  
Meeting to be determined

you will be scattered, each to His own, and will leave me alone” (John 16:32). We can relate to both ideas expressed in His statement today can’t we? We have been scattered, each to his/her own home for the time being. We are not able to enjoy the sweet fellowship and togetherness that we have become accustomed to doing. Maybe “assembling together” has been taken for granted (even expected) at times over the years. Subsequently, many of us have begun to feel very alone due to physical isolation from one another... But listen carefully and prayerfully to the words of Jesus: “And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me” (John 16:32). Did you hear Him? Who would be “scattered AND alone?”

Jesus, going into this horrific suffering event of His life on earth, *knew*, and possessed peace and comfort in the fact, that even if no one else He loved could or would be there with Him, that His heavenly Father was with Him. Jesus was being crucified so that you and I would be able to enjoy divine peace and comfort—even in the worst of worldly tribulation: “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world” (John 16:33). Did you hear Him? Share the Good News! People who feel alone need Him!

When we factor in that God would soon be forced to “abandon” Jesus because of our sins taken upon Him (Matthew 27:46); and how God has promised never to forsake His faithful and forgiven children in Christ (Hebrews 13:5) because of the righteousness of God upon/ within them (2 Corinthians 5:17), then shouldn’t that understanding enable and empower us to have peace and comfort—just as Jesus did that evening... even though, we too, may be scattered and alone? Yes, it surely should! And so, go forward and rejoice today my brethren. Why? By *knowing* that God is with you today!

Psalm 118:15-29 (particularly verse 24)... are we truly scattered AND alone? Hmmm...

Psalms 118:15-29 (NKJV) The voice of rejoicing and salvation Is in the tents of the righteous; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly. (16) The right hand of the LORD is exalted; The right hand of the LORD does valiantly. (17) I shall not die, but live, And declare the works of the LORD. (18) The LORD has chastened me severely, But He has not given me over to death. (19) Open to me the gates of righteousness; I will go through them, And I will praise the LORD. (20) This is the gate of the LORD, Through which the righteous shall enter. (21) I will praise You, For You have answered me, And have become my salvation. (22) The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. (23) This was the LORD's doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. (24) This is the day the LORD has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it. (25) Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity. (26) Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD. (27) God is the LORD, And He has given us light; Bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar. (28) You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, I will exalt You. (29) Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.

**Bday/Anniv Lunch:** ... when we can!

**Bible Study:** Consider your study of God's Word for your life (2 Timothy 2:15) Is it being done daily? Take time to learn...

**NMCCH:** collecting aluminum foil and kitchen trash bags (pick up is later...)

\* —THANK YOU for reading this!