



YET I AM NOT ALONE

The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, every man to his home, and will leave me alone; yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me.

John 16:32

It's what kept him focused.

The confidence that his Father was with him. When the disciples fell apart and fled, Jesus was sustained by this Presence which never left him. When Jesus says to the disciples (including us)...

“Lo, I am with you always,”

... He is doing for us what the Father did for him.

He is the Vine; we are the branches.

The Vine is always there.

The Vine never lets go.

In the fiercest storm the Vine holds the branch firm. The Vine commands the branch:

“Abide in me.”

Only the branch can do that.

Only the branch can focus on the Vine and keep the connection alive.

If the branch abides in the Vine, it is sustained in every storm.

If the branch neglects that connection, there is nothing the Vine can do but weep.



So how do I abide in the Vine?

By opening my heart to his words, daily, hourly. Those words are the *life of the branch*.

For starters, I open my heart to...

Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

(Matthew Chapters, 5, 6, 7)

His Upper Room Discourse.

(John, Chapters 13, 14, 15, 16, 17)

His words about the End.

(Matthew, Chapters 24, 25; Mark 13; Luke 21)

His words after the Resurrection.

(Luke Chapter 24 and John Chapters 20, 21)

Those words have a life of their own.

When we soak them into our souls, the Lord himself comes with them.



“If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be my disciples.”

John 15:7-8

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THE LAMB
WHO WAS SLAIN
HAS BEGUN HIS REIGN

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