United with His Death Bible Study Assignment

Assignment:

Write out a simple Bible study of verses on the topic of "United with His Death," including choosing the appropriate verses and then writing a sentence for each explaining how it fits.

Purpose of the assignment:

- To make choices concerning verses that are appropriate to a given topic.
- To practice writing out everything God says concerning a given topic.
- To connect specific things God says to your own life by explaining the application of a verse to the given topic.
- To know for sure in your own heart and mind what God actually says concerning His inclusion of you fully into the death of Christ, thus freeing you now to see yourself as living only in His life.

General guidelines:

Read carefully the note below titled "How You Hear." Use these thoughts as you select the verses you will use in your study.

This assignment is not an essay. It is simply a list of selected verses with a one-sentence explanation after each verse.

Use the following link, taking you to biblegateway.com, to conduct your study.

Bible Gateway Keyword Search

Specific directions for this assignment:

- 1. At BibleGateway.com, be sure you are on the Keyword Search page. Select the New King James Version of the Bible, then, near the bottom of the page, click "Search from" and set the choices at Romans in the first box and 1 John in the second box.
- 2. Then, type the following words into the search box, one at a time. Cross, crucify, crucified, death, dead, dies, died, sacrifice, offering.
 - a. <u>Note:</u> You will have to back space every single time to come back to this key word page where you have already set the "Search from" to include just the epistles. If you try to search from any other page, it will give you the whole Bible.
 - b. <u>However:</u> You can type more than one word in at a time with a comma after, as in: cross, crucify, crucified. Then set the Match box just beneath to "Match ANY Word." This will give you a list of verses containing any one of the different words.

- 3. When you click on "Search for keyword or phrase," you will be taken to a page (sometimes there is more than one page) with all the verses in those books containing that word. Many of those verses are not pertinent to your study.
- 4. As you read through the verses, choose only those that speak concerning either what the cross of Christ means for you right now or how you are united together with the one death of Christ in some way. Copy and paste those verses onto your Word document.
- 5. When you have gathered the verses from one or more words, then click the back arrow at the top left of your browser to go back to the keyword search page. Type in a new word or words from the list and continue selecting verses and pasting them onto your Word document.
- 6. When you have finished finding the appropriate verses, look through your list of the ones you have chosen. Make decisions on whether to keep or to remove each verse. If two (or more) verses say the exact same thing, you may choose to remove one or more of them so that your study is not too cumbersome. If some verses now seem less relevant, you may also choose to remove those.
- 7. Reduce your list down, now, to 10-15 verses that you consider to be the clearest and most important.
- 8. Having made your list of verses manageable, now write a sentence after each verse explaining how that verse applies to you, that is, to Christ your only life, setting you free, now, to see ALL of yourself only inside of Jesus.
- 9. When you have completed your explanations, pick five, for any reason you wish, and post them in the Discuss 14 Forum. Comment on other learner's posts.

How You Hear:

As you choose which verses to use, be careful how you hear. There are two ways to hear any word from God: by union or by separation.

Almost all of your Christian life you have heard everything in the Bible taught from separation.

Let me give an example.

Here is a verse you will likely include in your list: **And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires** (Galatians 5:24).

Then, when we go to biblehub.com to see the definition of the Greek word translated "have crucified," we read this:

"Crucify" (4717 /stauróō) is also used figuratively of putting the old self to death by submitting all decisions (desires) to the Lord. This utterly and decisively rejects the decision to live independently from Him.

Do you see how they hear? They hear only by separation. This definition of "have crucified" is an utterly and decisive rejection of union with Christ, a decision to live entirely independent of Him.

The practice of "putting the old self to death by submitting all decisions (desires) to the Lord" IS living separate and independent of Christ, of His death, and of His life.

Tell me, how can someone who is dead put him or her self to death?

How can someone who lives only by Christ separate him or her self from Christ in order to "submit all decisions" to someone else?

This definition of "having crucified" found at biblehub.com, a definition shared by almost all of Christianity, is a hardness of unbelief, of refusing to enter through the cross into full and present union with Christ.

Let's read it again, this time believing what God says. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires (Galatians 5:24).

I am Christ's, therefore I have already crucified the flesh with all of its passions and desires, therefore, from here on out, everything I am is Christ alone. It is my old self that is gone. The only thing remaining, in all of my present humanity, is the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ, and "I," the "I" that remains, I live in utter and present union with Jesus, enjoying sweet communion every moment and full freedom from all consideration of self and sin by the mighty barrier of the cross keeping me free.

Hear all things God speaks only as you are Christ Jesus living now as you.