



# *Devotional Study Guide Journal*

March 3<sup>rd</sup>

## **Jesus Died So that You Could Have LIFE**

### **Colossians 3:1-4**

*If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.*

Christians died (past tense) with Christ and were buried (past tense) with Him. But hear this: We also rose again with Him. Jesus did not die and rise again so that you could spend your life dying.

### **Galatians 2:20**

*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who **live**, but Christ **lives** in me; and the **life** which I now **live** in the flesh I **live** by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

So, then what did Paul mean when he said, "I die daily"? In context, it is clear that he was referring to the hardships and persecutions he experienced in ministry.

### **1 Corinthians 15:30-31**

*And why do we stand in jeopardy every hour? <sup>31</sup> I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.*

Never once did Paul instruct believers to die daily in the sense if it taught in churches today. He constantly reminded them that because He rose to live, so we are to live in newness of life.

Jesus died so that we could have LIFE. Life, everlasting LIFE, is what He came to give us...not everlasting death.

### **John 10:10**

*I have come that they may have LIFE, and that they may have it MORE ABUNDANTLY.*

### **John 3:16**

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting LIFE.*

Yet, even Jesus said that if we didn't pick up our cross daily and follow Him we are not worthy of Him. Didn't He?

In the three gospels where Jesus tells the disciples to pick up their cross and follow him, only in Luke does the word "daily" appear. This is significant. Also important to know is that the majority of Greek manuscripts do not include the word "daily" which is why it is not included in The Greek Majority Text. This likely means that the word "daily" was added later.

When we remove the dubious use of "daily," we can better understand what Jesus was saying and blend in His insistence that He came to give us life. He asked them before He went to the cross to pick up their crosses and follow Him which is exactly what happens when we are born again. We die with Him, but we also rise again to life with Him.

This passage makes matters perfectly clear.

### **Romans 6:5-11**

*For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old man **was crucified with Him**, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. <sup>7</sup> For he who has died has been freed from sin. <sup>8</sup> Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, <sup>9</sup> knowing that Christ, **having been raised from the dead, dies no more.** Death no longer has dominion over Him. <sup>10</sup> For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. <sup>11</sup> **Likewise** you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Just as Jesus died once **for** our sins, so do we die once **to** our sins. Now that we are raised with Him, we "die no more." He came to give us everlasting life.

However, "all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution." Only in that sense do we "die daily."

So, let us live in the freedoms He DIED to give us.

