

Physician Assisted Suicide

By Samantha Kuck

In 1Corinthians 6:19-20, it says, “What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body...” In these verses, we are told that our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit. That means that in everything we do, we are either helping or hurting the cause for Christ. As Christians, we are commanded to glorify God in everything that we say and do. How then can we say that we have the right to take our own lives? If we are believers and trust that God has the perfect plan for our lives, we would not take the liberty upon ourselves to end our lives just because we know that we have a terminal illness or are mentally unwell. God promised that he would always be with us in anything that we are going through: even death.

Proponents to physician assisted suicide (PAS), say that when a person is suffering and has a terminal illness, PAS is the most compassionate thing to do. They say that people have the constitutional right to take their lives; that it is as much of a freedom as the freedom of speech is, or the freedom of religion. Looking at life from an unbiblical worldview, I would have to say that the proponents to physician assisted suicide have a legitimate point. As an unsaved person, you wouldn't have a real reason to continue on living in pain and suffering. It would make sense to end your life peacefully rather than go through pointless agony. As an opponent to PAS, I can see clearly the wickedness of this practice. It is not only a violation to all that the medical field should stand for, but it also is incredibly contrary to what the scriptures teach us. When you go to visit the doctor, you usually are seeking medical attention from a professional who will help you recover from whatever you are ailing from. That is what a doctor should do. Their job is not

to aid you in the taking of your life. If a person does have a terminal illness, the doctor's job is to make the patient as comfortable and as pain free as possible until the person passes away naturally. Above all, legislation such as PAS and euthanasia are wrong because God says that we are created in his image. That being the case, we are his handywork whom he loves. If we love him in return, we will want to glorify his name and exemplify Christ. Nothing about killing yourself is God honoring or pleasing to him. We must trust God to do the best thing for us because he always will. He will bring us home to be with Him when He decides. In 1Samuel 2:6, it says, "The Lord killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up." Neither the time nor the manner of our death is for us to decide. As Christians we are commanded to put our faith and trust in the giver of life who will supply all our needs.

Not only is assisted suicide very wrong, it is also very dangerous for the physically and mentally disabled, as well as the elderly. If the ideas of physician assisted suicide and euthanasia continue in the direction that they are going today, they could be used to weed out the "less valuable" people of society. The mentally challenged, physically disabled, and the elderly, could all be viewed as a burden to society and dealt with in such a manner. They could be given less-advanced medical attention or even be denied medical attention all together. In countries where PAS and euthanasia are legally practiced, such atrocities are not unheard of

No matter how you look at these issues, you are forced to see the evil behind it. God made us in his image and loves us all equally. We have no need to take the termination of our lives into our hands because God says that his "grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." When we are at our weakest point, we need God the most. He is totally adequate for all that we could ever need. If we are completely depending on God, we will see

that any form of suicide is entirely unnecessary.

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