

Counterfeit Compassion: What the Bible Says About Physician-Assisted Suicide

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To understand these issues, we have to have a proper view of the Bible's sufficiency:

Sufficiency of Scripture

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - It's sufficient for making us competent for every good work
- 2 Peter 1:3-4 - Its sufficient for life and godliness

But what if the Bible does not directly address an issue?

Biblical Directives vs Biblical Principles

Physician-Assisted Suicide (PAS) Basics

What is PAS?

- The active introduction of a lethal agent into the patient's body by a physician, intentionally causing death, ill patients to seek help ending their lives.
- In the US, it is for patients who have a prognosis of less than 6 months to live. But in many other countries, a terminal illness is not required.

How Prevalant is this?

- 10 states - California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Montana, Maine, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington
- Countries - Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland. It has also been passed in legislative houses in Germany, Colombia, & Italy, but it has not yet fully been ratified into law.

Why is this controversial?

- Compassion - If we would show compassion for a pet by ending their misery, would we not more so want to show compassion to our relatives and loved ones?

Is Death a Right?

Euthanasia - Greek word meaning "good death."

A Biblical View of Who Has the Power Over Death

- Deuteronomy 32:39
- 1 Samuel 2:6-7
- Psalm 66:8-9
- Psalm 90:3
- Acts 17:25

But What About Compassion?

But What About Those Who Want To Avoid Pain & Suffering?

Ultimately, this is about control. Fear is always about control.

Genesis 3:5 - Humans have always wanted to be like God and take control of their lives.

But What About Those Who Don't Want to Burden Their Family Members?

1 Timothy 5:8

Slippery Slope of PAS

The normalization of death as a treatment option

What is considered terminal?

What is considered an illness?

Human dignity at all stages of life