

Extremely Precious!

The Sanctity of Human Life

Intro:

I. The sacredness of Human Life - Biblical foundation

- A. Set apart in creation order - Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 8:3-8
Notice there is no exception for the ill, elderly, or unwanted!
- B. Set apart by protective order - Genesis 9:6;
Exodus 20:13; Matthew 19:18

And, likewise, we note that there is no exception for the ill, elderly or unwanted!

The seriousness of the punishment clearly points to the sacred nature of human life apart from all other life forms.

II. The darkness of Satan's agenda - Physical destruction

- A. He is a liar and murderer. His agenda is death! - John 8:44

Satan hates human beings who are made in the image of God. He will do everything in his power to promote the destruction of the human body.

(Suicide rate in the US in 2025: 14.1 per 100,000. Total number of deaths by suicide in 2025 is unavailable, however, in 2022, there were a record high number at 49,000.)

- B. In contrast, God's agenda is life - I Corinthians 6:19-20

The Holy Spirit dwells within the body of the Christian and wants them to glorify God with their bodies.

III. The deadliness of todays world - Cultural direction

- A. Medical Aid In Death (MAID) - now in 12 states and D.C.
- B. Slippery slope! Where will this lead? Where will it end?
- C. The deadly idol of personal autonomy!

(The Briefing podcast; Al Mohler, December 10, 2025)

A biblical response to MAID/Euthanasia:

1. As image bearers, like in abortion, every person has dignity that cannot be lost regardless of his or her physical or mental state. (A Brave New World, Feinberg pg. 191)
2. Part of the sanctity of human life is the reality that only God gives and takes life. If we remove the oversight of God by self-termination, we diminish the very sovereignty of God over every moment and circumstance of our lives. Matthew 6:27
3. Bodily autonomy and freedom of choice, though valuable aspects of personhood, do not entitle one to elevate personal choice over God's place of giving and taking life. (In our culture and times bodily autonomy has become the one thing that is sacred above all else and is the inalienable right to justify almost any and all behavior!)
4. Ultimately, MAID is suicide, self murder. We do not have permission for such behavior. Psalm 139:16 clearly indicates that God ordains our days.

IV. The usefulness of suffering - Personal and spiritual instruction

- James 1:2 - 12
- II Corinthians 12:7-10

A pastoral perspective on the “value” of suffering:

1. There are things that God is doing that are sometime outside of our awareness and control as we care for a terminally ill loved one.
2. We demonstrate to our children and a watching community what unconditional love is and does. What family means! Even, in situations involving married couples, the seriousness and significance of our marriage vows is on display to our children.
3. Pain is often in Scripture, and among God's people, an instrument of sanctification that is unlike anything else that we experience. Job; Joni Erickson Tada.; James 1
4. Death is not punishment for the believer in Christ, but it remains unavoidable in living in a sin cursed world and is our “last enemy”. I Corinthians 15:26. Regardless of the difficulty of the process we do not short-circuit God's timing. We count on the Good Shepherd to walk with us through the dark valley. Psalm 23:4

