MAID and the Judgment of God

God has promised to always be with us. His son, Jesus, was named "Emanuel", which means "God with us." From the beginning, he wanted there to be no question about his abiding, faithful presence. For those who are considering the choice of MAID suicide, take comfort. God, because he has promised to always be with us, will be present at the moment of death, in whatever way that may occur. However, the fact that God is a righteous judge must remain a very real concern.

The Bible clearly states God's commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Kill." Suicide is killing, or self-murder. When one terminates their life unnaturally by choice, in God's eyes it is a sin. We are created in God's image; and purposely ending the life of one of his created beings by suicide is a violation of his explicit command. When the act to end life is the *last* act of one's life, what will God's judgement of that sin be? How will that act be judged? Will the ruling be "forgiveness" or will it be "condemnation"?

For those who end their life on a youthful whim or for those who are mentally ill, we pray that the Father, in his mercy, may be more accepting of the transgression. In such irrational or emotional moments, the Lord, in his compassion, knows that the mind of his child was not thinking clearly or processing information properly. However, although God's

commands have been made clear, how his mercy will be administered or withheld when a clear-thinking person deliberately disobeys God's law by causing their own unnatural death is in God's hands alone.

We are called to obey God's commandments in every area of our lives. When we disobey, there are always consequences. Therefore, let us purpose in our hearts and minds to choose as God would have us choose. Choose life. To do otherwise brings inevitable results that present a challenge to God's sovereign power and mercy.

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