

Does the Bible Talk About Suicide?

This is a common question. Many people yearn to have answers as they have lost loved ones to this device of Satan's, or are considering this act personally. Many pastoral staff skirt this issue because of lack of knowledge of what the Word truly says, and also it is a extremely sensitive issue.

Upon studying the Word, we find that this device was more common than we would think even in Biblical times. As you continue to read this brochure, you will learn of instances in Biblical times when various individuals desired death for various reasons. You will also learn about various individuals who actually committed suicide and the evil spirits which contributed to their decision.

You may even be surprised to learn that Satan attempted to use this device on Jesus, the Son of God.

This brochure has been compassionately written to provide you with biblical answers. After reading and studying this brochure, you will have wisdom, but it will be important to go to the Lord on bended knee and request understanding and insight. May the Lord give you peace as you seek His comfort.

Satan Tested Jesus

“Then the devil took him to the holy city, and made him stand on the parapet of the temple, and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written: ‘He will command his angels concerning you, and ‘with their hands they will support you, lest you dash your foot against a stone.’ Jesus answered him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord, your God, to the test.’ Then the devil took him up to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in their magnificence, and he said to him, “All these I shall give to you, if you will prostrate yourself and worship me.” At this, Jesus said to him, “Get away, Satan! It is written: ‘The Lord, your God, shall you worship and Him alone shall you serve.’ Then the devil left Him and, behold, angels came and ministered to Him.” Mt 4:5-11 (Lk 4: 5-13)

Satan manipulated the Word of God when tempting Christ to sin. Worldly people often use Scripture in an attempt to persuade believers to do something they know is wrong or unscriptural.

Death Desired

There are many instances when earthly circumstances were so severe that individuals desired death.

Jer 8:3 God speaks regarding the sin of idolatry as He announced His intention of allowing the bones of the people to be exposed before the stars they loved to worship and how the remaining people would desire death because of the emotional pain this would cause.

Job 3; 6:8-11; 7:1-3,15,16; 10:1; 14:13 all speak of an upright, God-fearing man who was tormented by Satan with unspeakable sufferings. Job viewed the grave as a place of rest. He did not see it as extinction, but as a place he would continue his personal existence.

1 Ki 19: 4 Elijah, who also was a God-fearing man sought death for various reasons. God compassionately met his needs.

Rev 9:6, we find that the pain inflicted by the demonic locusts will be so severe that people will seek death but will not be able to.

Study: **Num 11:15; Jonah 4:8**

Actual Instances of Suicide

As you study these scriptures, take a moment to answer the, “Why?”

Jdg 16:29,30 Because of Samson’s, now repentant spirit and renewed faith in God, his final heroic demonstration of his faith resulted in his inclusion among the heroes of faith. (Heb 11:32)

1 Sam 31:4-6 Saul, his three sons, and his armor bearer saw death coming and instead took their own lives. (1 Chr 10:4,5)

1 Kg 16:18 King Zimri saw a war defeat and took his life.

Mt 27:5; Ac 1:18 Judas was overcome with remorse over the fact that he had betrayed Jesus. It was at this moment, Judas realized that his actions inevitably affected others for good and for evil. Many things we set in motion will not be stopped, and the effect of the evil destructive action will fall on others.

Entrances/Endurance

Satan sets the stage with the following: anger, fear, rebellion, loneliness, guilt and condemnation, exhaustion, discouragement, grief, and failure. Paul battles and responds to Satan's attack: "I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have."

(Php 1: 23-30)