

Things we would rather not talk about...Suicide David Rhodes- October 16, 2022

Romans 8:31b-39

"If God is for us, who can ever be against us? ³² Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else? ³³ Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. ³⁴ Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us. ³⁵ Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? ³⁶ (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") ³⁷ No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. ³⁸ And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. ³⁹ No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Suicide does not negate the choice of God. (v.33)

"Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself."

Suicide does not negate the love of God. (v.35a,39)

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John 6:35a, 37

"Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; the one who comes to Me will not be hungry, and the one who believes in Me will never be thirsty... ³⁷ Everything that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I certainly will not cast out."

Suicide does not negate the reality of faith.

Ephesians 2:8-9

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast."

Concluding Guidance

For All:

- Take threats of self-harm seriously.
- Affirm your love and care.

For the Grieving:

- Don't blame yourself
- Don't interpret their darkness of soul as rejection of you

For Strugglers:

- Get Help!
 - SUICIDE HOT LINE -988
- Choose Love!
- Choose Life!

NOTES
