

Euthanasia: Making the Case for Caring, Not Killing

Across Europe and beyond, care for those who are dying and the debate on euthanasia in its many forms is on the political and cultural agenda – in truth, as it always has been. As Christians, any discussion about suffering, life and death must be framed in the context of faith in a sovereign God whose love and attention does not waver according to our circumstances and whose ways are beyond our understanding. This session will cover: 1) What happens when laws on euthanasia are changed; 2) What the Bible has to say about these debates; 3) How to apply that truth in engaging with our culture; and 4) How we respond effectively and strategically.

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- I. Introduction and key terms

- II. What happens when laws are changed?
 - A. There is no such thing as a safe law

 - B. The situation around the world
 1. Canada

 2. Oregon and Washington States

 3. Belgium and the Netherlands

 - C. Some key arguments

III. What does the Bible say, and what does that mean?

A. Suffering

B. What do Christians think?

C. What does the Bible say about euthanasia?

D. Key Biblical principles

1. Creation – Do you not know that your body is created for Him?

2. Redemption – Do you not know that your body has been bought by Him?

3. Resurrection – Do you not know that your body will be raised by Him?

4. United – Do you not know that your body has been joined to Him?

5. Dwelling Place – Do you not know that your body is a home for Him?

IV. How do we convey this truth in our culture?

A. Post-Christian culture

B. A more excellent way

- V. There is a better way
 - A. A 'good' death?
 - B. Speak up for the vulnerable
 - C. Champion palliative care
 - D. Engage in debate honestly
 - E. Be informed
 - F. Don't be afraid
 - G. The power of hope

Suggested Readings:

Assisted suicide: A talking points book – Vaughan Roberts
Death without dignity – Nigel Cameron
Euthanasia, Ethics and Public Policy – John Keown
Finishing Line – John Wyatt
Matters of Life and Death – John Wyatt
On Death – Timothy Keller
Right to die? – John Wyatt
The Problem of Pain – C.S. Lewis
This Cultural Moment – Mark Sayers and John Mark Comer (podcast)
What happens when I die? – Mark Nodder