



## BIBLE TALK

By

Mike King

Question: Is it murder for one to take their life suicide? Can one pray in advance effectively for pardon?

Answer: It is difficult to represent the mind of God on this matter. Allowance must be made for extenuating circumstances known only by God and the victim. The question is dealt with only in principle in the scripture.

Suicide is self-murder. The term from Latin is *sui* (oneself) and *cidium* (to intentionally kill). Suicides occur due to mental derangement, pressures of life, trouble, family problems, financial problems, remorse, despair, and sometimes a desire to punish or hurt others.

Suicide violates God's prohibition to "*not kill*" (Rom. 13:9). The very nature of the deed makes it impossible to repent and ask forgiveness. It is often referred to as the "*sin unto death*" (I Jn. 5:16). Would it not fall into the category of "*willful sin*" to plot and calculate our death, thinking God would forgive us if we prayed in advance for forgiveness (Heb. 10:26ff)? It is contrary to nature to take one's life. Love of life and self-preservation are two of the strongest principles implanted in man by his creator.

Suicide is a refusal on man's part to accept God's assignment if it proves difficult or unpleasant. Faithful stewards must be willing to "*suffer hardship*" (2 Tim. 2:3). We are instructed to "*keep the faith even unto death*" (2 Tim. 4:6-8). The Christian's body is a temple for God's Holy Spirit (I Cor. 6:19). The crown of life is for those who are "*faithful unto death*" (Rev. 2:10). We do not want to run the risk of being unfaithful in death, having no recourse. God is the Supreme Judge and Regardless of what we think, He will judge righteously (Acts 17:31)!

*For inquiries or free Bible study by mail, contact:*

***New Albany Church of Christ***

***P.O. Box 148, 511 Hwy 15 S ~ New Albany, MS 38652  
nacoc.us ~ 662-534-4649 ~ [bibletalk.mlk@gmail.com](mailto:bibletalk.mlk@gmail.com)***