

Suicide Begets Suicide

by Wayne Goff

Tyler Lambert, son of “Diff’rent Strokes” star, Dana Plato, committed suicide on May 6, almost exactly 11 years after his mother ended her life. Lambert was 25. [PopEater.com].

Suicide by any human being is a great tragedy, and I believe can better be described as self-murder. With all the life problems one can face, it’s easy to see how some might resort to “ending it all.” The problem is that it ends nothing, but is the ticket to a life of eternal misery. God is always the Judge in every case, but the Bible does not condone murder of any kind, and no human has the right to murder.

However, the point of this article is to show the possible consequences of suicide. Those who love those who have killed themselves face years of guilt, depression, and unanswered questions. One of the most selfish things anyone can do is to kill themselves. They are thinking of no one else, nor of how it might affect them.

I have personally known a few who have committed suicide. I have known at least one person who suffered the consequences of losing a parent to suicide. I have known a few more who attempted suicide and failed. There is absolutely nothing good associated with it, and therefore it must belong to the works of Satan (Matt. 7:16-20).

Some biblical cases of suicide include Abimelech (Judges 9:51-57), Saul (1 Sam. 31:4), Saul’s armorbearer (1 Sam. 31:5-6), Ahithophel (2 Sam. 17:23), Zimri (1 Kings 16:18), and Judas (Matt. 27:5; Acts 1:18). None of these individuals are approved by God in what they did and all were rejected by Him in the end.

Suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in the United States, and the fourth leading cause of death for those aged 18-65 in the United States. Ninety percent of all people who die by suicide have a diagnosable psychiatric disorder at the time of their death. [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, www.afsp.org] If you ever even slightly consider suicide, then seek medical help first, and remember that hell isn’t worth it! Secondly, consider how it will affect others besides yourself.

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