



Your Life Begins And Ends With A Decision.

By: Daniel Kennedy

Join Daniel's Zoom Bible study
8:30 PM Central Time

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Joshua 24:15 And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

John 3:33 Whoever receives His testimony has set his seal of approval to this: God is true. [That man has definitely certified, acknowledged, declared once and for all, and is himself assured that it is divine truth that God cannot lie].

John 3:36 And he who believes in (has faith in, clings to, relies on) the Son has (now possesses) eternal life. But whoever disobeys (is unbelieving toward, refuses to trust in, disregards, is not subject to) the Son will never see (experience) life, but [instead] the wrath of God abides on him. [God's displea-

sure remains on him; His indignation hangs overhim continually.] [Hab. 2:4.]

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the Gospel (good news) of Christ, for it is God's power working unto salvation [for deliverance from eternal death] to everyone who believes with a personal trust and a confident surrender and firm reliance, to the Jew first and also to the Greek,

John 17:3 And this is eternal life: [it means] to know (to perceive, recognize, become acquainted with, and understand) You, the only true and real God, and Jesus [as the] Christ (the Anointed One, the Messiah), Whom You have sent.

Joshua 24:22-23 Then Joshua said to the people, You are witnesses against yourselves the Lord, to serve Him. And they said, We are

witnesses. [23] Then put away, said he, the foreign gods that are among you and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.

Your life is predicated on what decision you make today. For it is written, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will have worries of its own, sufficient for each day is its own trouble (Matthew 6:34). Today God has given you a decision to make, will I believe what the Word of the Lord says and inherit true eternal life? Or will I continue to believe what my flesh tells me? The life you live is a decision of your own, you must decide of your own free will to believe in God, and His Son, whom He sent to give you eternal life! To those that make that decision, you are not alone, God has made a decision with you today! He has chosen you to be a part of the Kingdom of Heaven, the true eternal life of our Savior Jesus Christ! As we see in John 17, knowing Him IS eternal life! It is the constant decision you make daily to know and Love Jesus Christ, that will bring you into new understanding. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life, make the decision and choose to follow Him. He will never leave you nor forsake you, He is the beginning and the end, His word is alive, and only He gives us our life, but it begins with YOUR decision. We must decide to become dead to sin, and be born again unto Him forever, Amen!

Jesus is coming soon friends & family, don't decide on unbelief, decide on belief, decide on Jesus, He has decided on you! Be blessed! Love to everyone!

What Does the Bible Say About Suicide?

Timeless Wisdom on a Timely Challenge



DALLAS, / Christian Newswire/ --

National Suicide Prevention week was September 6-12 this year. Jim Denison, co-founder of Denison Forum, pastor, author and digital-ministry leader, offers helpful insight on what the Bible says about suicide.

"Even before the pandemic and recent social unrest, anxiety and depression were escalating in our culture and the suicide rate along with them," Denison said. "As a pastor and a theologian, I am not qualified to offer medical advice or professional counseling to those suffering from anxiety or depression. But I can offer biblical insights on the painful issues of suicide."

A Problem on the Rise

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report one in four young adults said they had considered suicide in the previous month because of the COVID-19 pandemic. And 30.9 percent of respondents said they had experienced symptoms of anxiety or depression. The World Health Organization estimates 800,000 people take their lives each year – one every 40 seconds! And the Washington Post, citing a late-March U.N. report, stated that, "Americans are the least happy they've ever been."

Consider these startling statistics from the CDC's most recent study on the subject in 2017:

- Suicide accounted for

47,000 U.S. deaths and was the tenth-leading cause of death.

- For those between the ages of 10 and 34, it was the second-leading cause of death.

There were more than twice as many suicides (47,173) in the United States as there were homicides (19,510).

What Does the Bible Say?

The Bible does not actually contain the word "suicide," however it is still relevant to this subject. There are five instances in the Old Testament of people taking their own lives or having another do it for them, and there is one in the New Testament.

What the Bible makes unmistakably clear is the sanctity of life, Denison said.

"In a nontheistic or relativistic society, it is difficult to argue for life and against suicide. If we are our own 'higher power,' we can do with our lives what we want, or so we're told," Denison said. "But if God is the Lord of all that is, he retains ownership over our lives and their days. He is the only one who can determine when our service is done, our intended purpose fulfilled."

Three Biblical Promises

The Bible makes three promises to those suffering today. One: You and everyone you know is someone of inestimable worth.

Depression and life crises can cause people to feel that their lives are not worth living. The opposite

is someone for whom Jesus died.

Two: God loves you and wants to help.

Denison quoted Psalm 34:18 as an example of God's compassion for each individual: "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." He continued, "However, let me repeat that one of the most important ways the Great Physician heals is through human physicians. That's why you or families with loved ones suffering from a mental illness need to reach out to professional counselors as soon as possible. God will use them as he ministers his grace to you and your family."

Three: You can "dwell on the heights" with God.

"Isaiah 33:6 says God wants to be 'the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge,'" Denison said. "And verse 16 says the person who walks with him will 'dwell on the heights.' This is the promise, and the invitation, of God."

Denison pointed out that every threat of suicide should be taken seriously. And for help, people can call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 (TALK) or go to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline's website at [suicidpreventionlifeline.org](https://www.suicidpreventionlifeline.org).

For much more on this subject, read the complete article on the Denison Forum.

www.denisonforum.org

Vietnamese Pastor Released From Prison

written by ANS Editor

New Malden, England (ANS) – Christian Solidarity Worldwide has welcomed the release of Vietnamese Pastor A Dao on 18 September after more than four years in prison. He was not expected to be released until August 2021. According to CSW Pastor A Dao was arrested in 2016 while on his way to visit some members of his church following his return from the Southeast Asia Freedom of Religion or Belief (SEA-FORB II) Conference in East Timor in August 2016. His family were not informed of his arrest and heard nothing from him for five days. In April 2017, Pastor A Dao was sentenced to five years in prison for 'illegally taking people to Thailand', a charge he denies; he has remained imprisoned ever since. Pastor A Dao's church has experienced ongoing

harassment from the authorities. In June 2020, Commissioner James Carr of the United States Commission for International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) pledged to adopt Pastor A Dao as part of the Commission's Religious Prisoners of Conscience Project. In response to the pastor's release, Commissioner Carr said: "I hope this release is a sign that the Vietnamese government is serious about improving religious freedom conditions and will release other individuals detained for their religious freedom advocacy, including Nguyen Bac Truyen. In addition, USCIRF urges the government to take steps to ensure that local authorities respect A Dao's freedom and safety should he choose to return to his home village." CSW continues to re-

ceive reports of severe violations of freedom of religion or belief (FoRB) against every major religious community in Vietnam, including Buddhists, Catholics, Cao Daists, Hoa Hao Buddhists and Protestants. Violations range from harassment, intimidation and intrusive monitoring, to arrest, imprisonment, torture and extra-judicial killing, and are often most severe for individuals in remote areas who are both ethnic and religious minorities. CSW's Founder President Mervyn Thomas said: "CSW welcomes the release of Pastor A Dao while noting that he should never have been imprisoned in the first place as he was innocent of the charges levelled against him. We call on the authorities to ensure that Pastor A Dao is able to enjoy his freedom without fear of further ha-



Pastor A. Dao who was released from prison September 18.

Photo from: [facebook.com/watch/vomcanada](https://www.facebook.com/watch/vomcanada)

Pastor A. Dao photo: USCIRF

harassment or violations against himself, his church, or his loved ones. We also continue to call for the immediate and unconditional release of all remaining prisoners of conscience in Vietnam, including Nguyen Bac

Truyen and Pastor Nguyen Trung Ton. The international community must ensure that any limited positive developments do not obscure continued and serious human rights concerns in Vietnam, in particular as the EU, UK

and US seek to build closer relationships with the country." Assist News exists to inform, educate, and inspire by distributing news about what God is doing in the USA and globally. www.assistnews.net