

## Suicide of a Professing Believer

Dayna and I are so sorry to hear about...*your loved one's*...homegoing. I say homegoing because as far as we can know she is with the Lord. My confidence for this, and our only hope in life and death, is in Jesus. We are not saved because of anything we do, and we do not get to heaven by our good finish! When the Bible calls us sinners that never changes until we get to heaven. Only then and there will our sin be fully and forever removed. Yet even in heaven we will be forgiven sinners. That is why we will sing, "*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!*" Because it is only the blood of Christ that restores our relationship with God.

So, we can trust the blood of Christ will save all who call upon His name. It is not the amount of our faith, or the consistency of our life of faith, that saves us. It is the object of faith that matters. What do we believe in? Or better WHO do we believe in? We believe in the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end – the One who saves forever. What He begins in us He will complete. Our faith might only be the size of a mustard seed – you can barely see it! But that is 'big' enough, because He is immense! ALL who call on the NAME of the Lord will be SAVED.

Suicide is a sin. We are to treasure and keep the life God gives us. But it is not an unforgivable sin. Some churches and Christians say suicide is unforgivable – but the Bible has a more hopeful message. Indeed, there is only one unforgivable sin – rejecting Jesus. Since Jesus is the ONLY way to be saved, if someone REJECTS Him, they cannot be saved. He alone is the Way, the Truth, and Life – the only way to the Father.

So, we will meet people in heaven who got there through suicide. Their sin will be forgiven, fully redeemed. The troubled mind that made them take their life will be completely renewed. The emptiness in their heart will be filled in the fullness of His presence.

But, sadly, those of us who are left behind will feel the pain of their suicide for the rest of our lives. Every time you see their picture or mention their name there will be pain in our hearts. What a loss! What a sad ending! Why?? And they are not around to answer that question.

So, you are just starting the healing process. And it will never really finish until you see Jesus, and the loved one who went to be with Him, face to face. Only then will every tear be wiped away forever. Jesus is the One who heals our broken hearts. He is our Savior and sustainer. He cleanses and keeps us. We sing "*Worthy is the Lamb!*" now as a rehearsal for Heaven. So, stay close to Jesus, and ask Him to stay close to you. That is our prayer for you.