

Life as a Gift from God. An Argument against Euthanasia

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Abstract

Through the present study, we aim to detail the main theological argument against euthanasia: human life as gift from God. In the first part of the study, we will present the doctrine of creation as a basis for claiming the idea that life is given by God, this being an enriched gift. In the second part of the study we will present the outcome of the process of secularization through which our argument has passed, or how life is no longer seen as a gift but as a good or value. The value of human life can be argued through three competing ethical points: vitalism, inviolability of life, and quality of life. The theological contribution in this debate is rigorous to understand why human life is not a personal good to which we give up because of an incurable disease, depression or when we feel that life is complete, invoking the respect of the doctrine and worsening the understanding of the Christian mind that inevitably leads to a practical materialism in which individualism, utilitarianism and hedonism are proliferating.