

The Never Saved Argument Scrutinized

Dan Corner



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For a person to say that a professing Christian was *never saved*, if he turns away from God to sin, is **fallacious in at least 7 different areas**. If you are a Christian, carefully ponder the following so you can help others see the *dangerous folly* of such a declaration.

Reason 1: For one to say a professing Christian who turns away from God to sin was *never saved* is also to deny that **we can know who is saved and who is not** by their **present tense behavior**. Such is clearly *unscriptural*:

This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right **is not a child of God; nor is anyone who** does not love his brother. (1 John 3:10)

Dear children, **do not let anyone lead you astray. He who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. He who does what is sinful is of the devil.** (1 John 3:7,8)

We know that we have come to know him **if we obey his commands. The man who says, "I know him," but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him.** (1 John 2:3,4)

The Bible is crystal clear that ***we can know them by their fruit* (Mt. 7:16,17) and there is observable evidence of God's saving grace:**

News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he arrived and **saw the evidence of the grace of God**, he was glad and **encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.** (Acts 11:22,23)

► To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is **to deny that others were ever able to identify him as a non-Christian before that happened.**

Reason 2: For one to say a professing Christian who turns away from God to sin was *never saved* is also to have an **inconsistent message**. If those same teachers were consistent **they would have to say David, Solomon and Peter were never saved because they backslid.** David turned to **adultery**

and murder (2 Sam. 11); Solomon turned to **idolatry** (1 Kings 11:4-10) and Peter **disowned Jesus**

three times (Mt. 26:33,34). Both David and Peter repented and returned to God but **Solomon continued in wickedness. There is no evidence that Solomon ever returned to God.**

► **To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was never saved is to exclude prominent Biblical characters who were truly saved before terribly falling to that degree. On this basis alone, the never saved argument is destroyed.**

Reason 3: To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is to imply that **true Christians will not turn away to sin but continue to obey God. But that type of message is often opposed and scoffed at by the same teachers.** In other words, those same teachers declare Christians constantly sin in *thought, word and deed*. They also wrongly use Romans 7:14-25 for support and to teach that Paul was like that and such is the **normal Christian life!** Imagine that! They teach like that then turn 180 degrees around and teach the same crowd if you turn away you were **never saved—two completely opposite teachings, yet their audience seems oblivious to it.**

► To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is also to teach that a true Christian will **always obey** God and never backslide, which is denied by their misuse of Rom. 7:14-25.

Reason 4: To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is to ignore at least 26 Scriptures in the NT which show people who previously were disciples and followers of Christ later *fell away, turned away, went back*, etc. and **not once in those 2 dozen plus passages do we read because they went back that was evidence which proves they were never saved.** Scripture shows it can be somewhat common for followers of Christ to turn to wickedness; get deceived into believing a false gospel; etc.

► To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is also to display ignorance of those 26 Scriptures (plus all the other relevant Scriptures) which teach the opposite. (See *The Believer's Conditional Security*, p. 632 for a listing of those Scriptures.)

Reason 5: To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is also to teach you



Evangelical Outreach
PO Box 265, Washington, PA 15301

can never know if anyone is a Christian brother or sister, including *the preacher himself who taught you this never really saved absurdity. Maybe he is just a false convert too.*

Their doctrine would have us believe another's salvation can't be known as long as one remains alive, because as long as they remain alive they might apostatize and thereby prove they were never saved. If you can't tell if another is a Christian then you can't consider someone to be a *spiritual leader* or a *possible spouse to marry*, since both require true Christians.

➤ To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is also to teach that no Christian can ever know another to be a possible *spiritual leader* or *spouse for marriage*.

Reason 6: To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is only backed by two passages, which are both misused.

Matthew 7:23

The first is **Mt. 7:23** where Jesus tells *continuous tense evildoers* that he never knew them.

Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?" Then I will tell them plainly, "**I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!**" (Mat 7:21-23)

The context shows the religious ones referred to there were *never saved but were continuous tense evildoers*. Those religious-but-continuous evildoers never had evidence of saving grace, that is, a **freedom from sin addictions which occurs when one contacts the blood of Jesus at true conversion** (Rom. 6:22; John 8:34-36; Rev. 1:5; etc.), but **that doesn't mean others who had a true conversion can't shrink back, as the Bible shows has happened.**

Furthermore, the *never saved* proponents focus in on the one and only passage which has the words *never saved* (or its equivalent), but conveniently overlook three passages which show others were also not known by the Lord Jesus, but not told they were *never saved*:

But he replied, "I tell you the truth, **I don't know you.**" (Mat 25:12)

Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, "Sir, open the door for us." But he will answer, "**I don't know you** or where you come from." (Luke 13:25)

But he will reply, "**I don't know you** or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!" (Luke 13:27)

Jesus didn't tell them, *I never knew you*, like in Mt. 7:23, but instead **I don't know you**. That implies *they were once known (saved)*, but later lost their salvation. This is especially clear with the 10 Virgins teaching (Mt. 25:1-13).

1 John 2:19

The second Scripture misused by the *never saved* OSAS crowd for support is 1 John 2:19, which **refers to people who did not believe Jesus was the Christ**, as shown in 1 John 2:22:

Who is the liar? **It is the man who denies that Jesus is the Christ.** Such a man is the antichrist—he denies the Father and the Son.

Their *doctrine* clearly excluded them from being a Christian. **They too had no evidence of saving grace since they denied Jesus was the Christ.**

➤ To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is also to rely chiefly upon two Scriptures, both of which are misused and misapplied. Hence, there is no solid Biblical support for it. The people referred to in each *never had evidence of saving faith because they were either continuous tense evildoers or doctrinally denied Jesus was the Christ.*

Reason 7: To say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was *never saved* is also cited as an argument to conceal the license for immorality that the once saved always saved doctrine declares itself to be. **When their doctrine gets exposed as the security in sin gospel or they notice gross immorality among those they have been preaching to, they then tend to mention their contradicting, inconsistent, double message with no Scriptural support—the never saved absurd argument.**

With some people, it has actually succeeded in *confusing the issue* enough to conceal the glaring wickedness and security-in-sin being taught through eternal security at other times.

➤ People who cite the *never saved* argument are either grossly ignorant of hundreds of Scriptures which counter the *never saved* doctrine or are intentionally hiding those related-but-contradictory truths to preserve their own doctrine, which began with the devil himself in Gen. 3:4.

There are well over 100 relevant Scriptures which refute the *never saved* argument. They only have 2 verses, which are both misused and misapplied. **Which will you believe?**

One more point: Calvinist John MacArthur is one of the leading proponents (along with Ray Comfort) of this absurd unscriptural *never saved* (or *false convert*) argument. Yet MacArthur clearly teaches, **at times**, there are *Christian adulterers, Christian drunks, Christian thieves, Christian liars, Christian murderers, etc.*

Please consider getting our 801 page book refuting eternal security entitled, ***The Believer's Conditional Security***. There is MUCH in it that can help you better understand this **salvation related subject**. www.evangelicaloutreach.org/whatsnew.htm

The Believer's Conditional Security is the most exhaustive and comprehensive refutation to eternal security ever written.

(724) 632-3210 ♦ EOMin.Org ♦ grace@EOMin.Org