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

In summary, to say a professing Christian who turns away from God to wickedness was never saved is 1) to deny that others were ever able to identify him as a non-Christian before that happened; 2) to exclude prominent Biblical characters who were truly saved before terribly falling to that degree; 3) to teach that a true Christian will always obey God and never backslide; 4) to display ignorance of 26 Scriptures (plus all the other relevant Scriptures) which teach the opposite; 5) to teach that no Christian can ever know another to be a possible spiritual leader or spouse for marriage; 6) to rely chiefly upon two Scriptures, both of which are misused and misapplied. 7) 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 their truth.

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**The Never Saved Argument Scrutinized**

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 seven 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 Bar- nabas 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)

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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.

**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.
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 26 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.

Reason 5: 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 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,” but you will reply, “I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!” (Mt. 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 words never saved (or their 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)

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.

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 teaching 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.