

Our book, *The Believer's Conditional Security*, names, quotes and refutes with Scripture the popular eternal security teachers of our day. It was written from the point of view that we are **saved by grace**, but that it is possible for a Christian to **lose his inheritance of the kingdom of God** (Gal. 5:21; Eph. 5:5-7), be **disowned by Christ** (Mt. 10:33), **have his share in the tree of life and New Jerusalem taken away** (Rev. 22:19), **die spiritually if we choose to live according to the sinful nature** (Rom. 8:13), **become spiritually dead and lost** (Lk. 15:24), etc. It also cites important spiritual safeguards that will help assure, if acted upon, that you and/or your loved ones will not be like the five foolish virgins who were not ready to meet Jesus when He arrived and heard him say, *I don't know you* (Mt. 25:1-13).

The Believer's Conditional Security

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Does True Grace Teaching Allow The Sexually Immoral In Heaven ???

Eternal Security Teachers Say "Yes" to this Question

Bob George:

"So is committing **fornication** permissible? **Yes**. Is it profitable? No, it isn't."¹

Charles Stanley:

"It is not lying, cheating, stealing, **raping**, murdering, or **being unfaithful** that sends people to hell" [emphasis ours].²

John MacArthur commenting on the list of sins cited in 1 Cor. 6:9,10, including **sexual immorality**, stated:

"Some who used to have those patterns of sinful life were falling into those old sins again, and needed reminding that **if they went all the way back to live as they used to**, they were not going to inherit eternal salvation, because it would indicate that they never were saved" [emphasis ours].³

Comment: MacArthur is teaching that if a person committed just a little bit less **sexual immorality**, etc. than he did before getting born again, he has a saving faith and remains saved in this wickedness.

John MacArthur's Ministry:

"Secondly, you asked about occasional **sexual sin** or getting drunk. Again, these sins cannot cause a true believer to lose his salvation" [emphasis ours].⁴

John Ankerberg:

"But Christians may still lose rewards in heaven. Indeed, we can only wonder what some Christians will feel like and experience on that day when they lose those heavenly rewards because of the spiritually numbing and other consequences of **fornication** or **adultery** while on earth? It will certainly be an infinitely poor exchange—losing eternal rewards in heaven for a few fleeting moments of **sexual pleasure** on earth" [emphasis ours].⁵

Dave Hunt:

"The man who had 'his father's wife'—a terrible sin—**didn't lose his salvation thereby ...**" [emphasis ours].⁶

Comment: Hunt's statement here was written in regard to the **sexually immoral** man of 1 Cor. 5:1 committing a form of immorality that even pagans didn't do.

John R. Rice:

"David committed sins of murder and **adultery ...** he had not lost his salvation, but the joy of salvation" [emphasis ours].⁷

Erwin W. Lutzer:

"Recently I spoke to a **homosexual** who believes he accepted Christ at the age of twenty, only to plunge into a life of **wanton immorality ...** Whether or not he was a child of God during those days of heedless

1. Bob George, "People to People" radio talk show, 11/9/93.

2. Charles Stanley, *Eternal Security: Can You Be Sure?*, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1990, p. 70.

3. *The MacArthur Study Bible*, Word Publishing, 1997, p. 1736.

4. Personal letter dated 1/10/94 sent by Bryan Johnson, a counselor from John MacArthur's ministry.

5. The Ankerberg Theological Research Institute, News Magazine (Vol. 2, No. 6), June 1995, p. 4.

6. Dave Hunt, *The Berean Call*, July 1996, p. 3.

7. John R. Rice, *Can A Saved Person Ever Be Lost?*, Sword of the Lord Publishers, 1943, p. 16.

carnality (who of us knows for sure?), he lost fellowship with his Father” [emphasis ours].⁸

Donald Cole responds to a telephone caller whose husband moved in with another woman:

“Well if he was a genuine believer before he **moved in with this other woman**, then **he is indeed on the way to heaven** and he will never get off the road to heaven.”⁹

John Calvin comments on Ezek. 18:24 and David’s **adultery** and murder:

“... that wretched king fell into a series of crimes: yet he failed in only one thing, and showed that **God’s grace** was only suffocated within him, and **not altogether extinguished.**”

Robert Morey:

“The eternal security of the believer arises out of the necessity and nature of the atonement That the saints do not ultimately fall away from grace or into sin does not mean that Christians don’t fall into sin many times in their lifetime ... David committed **adultery** and murder ...” [emphasis ours].¹⁰

God’s Word Doesn’t Teach Eternal Security and Says “No” to this Question

The Lord Jesus:

“But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed **adul-**

tery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into **hell**” (Mt. 5:28,29).

“Outside are the dogs, those who practice magic arts, the **sexually immoral**, the murderers, the idolaters and everyone who loves and practices falsehood” (Rev. 22:15).

Comment: To be *outside*, according to the above verse, is to be excluded from New Jerusalem and to be in **the lake of fire**.

The Apostle Paul:

“**Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God**” (1 Cor. 6:9,10, NKJV).

“The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: **sexual immorality**, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this **will not inherit the kingdom of God**” (Gal. 5:19-21).

“For of this you can be sure: no **immoral, impure or greedy person**—such a man is an idolater—**has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Let no one deceive you with empty words**, for because of such things God’s wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them” (Eph.5:5-7).

Jude:

“In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to **sexual immorality** and perversion. They serve as an example of those **who suffer the punishment of eternal fire**” (Jude 7).

The Sovereign God Seated On His Throne:

“But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the **sexually immoral**, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—their **place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur**. This is the second death” (Rev. 21:8).

Which Version of the Gospel of God’s Grace Will You Believe?

Jesus said, “If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this **adulterous** and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels” (Mk. 8:38). There and elsewhere, the Lord described this age, in which we are now living, as an *adulterous* one. Paul said the same with the following, “I have written you in my letter not to associate with **sexually immoral people**—not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case, you would have to leave this world” (1 Cor. 5:9,10). It, therefore, stands to reason that **the sin of sexual immorality would be rampant, as one can easily observe in the society.**

Furthermore, the Apostle Paul accurately wrote, “The time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, **to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.** They will turn their

ears away from the truth and turn aside to **myths**” (2 Tim. 4:3,4). It is understood, the *desires* which some will try to *suit* are **sinful**. Could it be that doctrinal mythology, such as *eternal security* (sometimes called *once saved always saved* or the *perseverance of the saints*), is the result of people with *itching ears* turning to *a great number of teachers* who will say what itching ears with sinful desires want to hear? **We believe the false *grace* teachers, as just cited, are not only wrong but spiritually dangerous.**

True *grace* teaching is most concisely described in Titus 2:12 where it says about such, **“It teaches us to say *No* to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.”** Read again what **real *grace* teaching** (as found in the Bible) declares about the *sexually immoral* as contrasted to the aforementioned quotes made by the eternal security teachers of our day. Which will you reject as *deadly error*? **The seriousness of sexual immorality, as taught by the eternal security teachers, is as far from the truth of God as the lake of fire is from the kingdom of heaven.** Please ponder this statement and the consequences of being wrong. **Multitudes in the so-called *church* of our hour need to *repent* for *salvation’s* sake, not *reward’s* sake. They are on the road to *hell*, but think they are on the road to heaven because of eternal security teaching.**

The popular eternal security message of our day is really a **deadly distorted *grace* message** taught under the *finished work of Christ*. Furthermore, this myth of *once saved, always saved* generates a *dangerous, false security* among its adherents that takes them off their guard as it attempts to explain away the most serious warnings found in Scripture (Mt. 5:28,29; 18: 1-3; Lk. 12:4,5; Gal. 5:19-21; Rev. 22:18, 19; etc.), sets one up for a fatal spiritual *fall* (1 Cor. 10:12) and opens the same up for the deadly *arrogance* mentioned in Rom. 11:20-22.

8. Erwin W. Lutzer, *How You Can Be Sure That You Will Spend Eternity With God*, Moody Press, 1996, pp. 131, 132.

9. Donald Cole, Open Line, *Know You’re Saved/Eternal Security*, air date 11/11/88.

10. Robert Morey, *The Saving Work of Christ: Studies in the Atonement*, Grace Abounding Ministries, Inc., 1980, pp. 235, 236.