Eternal Security Teachers Say “Yes” to this Question

Does True Grace Teaching Allow The Sexually Immoral In Heaven?

Bob George:
“No is committing fornication permissible? Yes. Is it profitable? No, it isn’t.”

Charles Stanley:
“It is not lying, cheating, stealing, raping, murdering, or being unfaithful that sends people to hell” [emphasis ours].

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].

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].

1. Bob George, “People to People” radio talk show, 11/9/93.
4. Personal letter dated 1/10/94 sent by Bryan Johnson, a counselor from John MacArthur’s ministry.

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].

Dave Hunt:
“The man who had ‘his father’s wife’—a terrible sin— didn’t lose his salvation thereby...” [emphasis ours].

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].

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...”

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

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.”

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].


cary 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).

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 is 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.