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## Hebrews 10:26-31

26. “For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

27. but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.

28. Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.

29. How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?

30. For we know Him who said, ‘VENGENCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY.’ And again, ‘THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE.’

31. It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

There are those who preach the Calvinistic doctrine of eternal security, that states “once you are saved, you can’t lose your salvation.”

(I once had a preacher tell me that “God’s not an

Indian-giver; once He gives a person the gift of salvation, He will never take it back.” Well, besides his using an untrue racial slur to prove his point, his logic is faulty.) While it is true that God desires that all men be saved, and wills that none should perish but all come to repentance--man still has the free will to deny the Savior who bought them. Hebrews 10:29 reasons with us with these words: “How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?”

Many who hold to the doctrine of “once saved, always saved” will contend that if a person falls away, he was never saved in the first place.

Notice in verse 26 of this morning’s passage, the author says, “If we go on sinning willfully.” The “we” here necessarily refers to Christians. In chapter 3, verse 1 of Hebrews the author addresses his readers in this way: “Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling.”

Verse 26 of Hebrews chapter 10 goes on to state: “For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving a knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.” The phrase “there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,” indicates that a sacrifice for sins was at one time present for the individual. But willful continuance in sin removed the appropriation of Christ’s blood sacrifice to

cover sin.

Once the sacrifice for sin no longer remains applicable to the one willfully continuing in sin, his consciousness is filled with what verse 27 describes “a terrifying expectation of judgment.” This fear of eternal damnation is God’s way of turning a person away from his sin and back to God.

Now such teachings as “once saved, always saved,” tend to neutralize the fear of God, which is often necessary to cause sinful, self-deceived Christians to come to their senses and stop practicing sin. Christians can become comfortable in their sins, quench the Spirit, and be lulled into a false sense of security--thinking they will make it to heaven no matter what they do.

In the beginning, the Devil himself said, “Surely you will not die.” The doctrine of “once saved, always saved” says the same thing. This doctrine is a lie, straight from the pit of Hell, right out of the mouth of the father of lies.

The Bible says, “If we go on sinning willfully after receiving a knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment.”