Apostasy: Negative Response to the New Covenant, Part 1 *John MacArthur*

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Hebrews 10:26-39.
- B. The warning in this text may be the most serious warning in all of Scripture.
- C. This is the sin for which there is no forgiveness.
- D. To be an apostate means to draw away from the true God to a false god. (Deuteronomy 13:13, 1 Samuel 15:11, 2 Chronicles 15)
- E. Three things must make up true salvation: faith, hope and love.
- F. We must continue in the faith if salvation is to be true. (John 15:6)
- II. Definition of apostasy: one who has rejected God.
 - A. This is a defection. (Acts 21:21, 2 Thessalonians 2:2, Matthew 24:10)
 - B. The truly saved one continues. (1 John 2:19)
 - C. Many will fall to apostasy in the last days. (1 Timothy 4, 2 Thessalonians 2)
- III. Reasons that some fall away from the gospel.
 - A. Persecution.
 - B. False teaching. (2 Timothy 4:4)
 - C. Temptation.
 - D. Worldliness.
 - E. Neglect. (Hebrews 2:3)
 - F. Hardness in unbelief. (Hebrews 3:13)
 - G. A failure to release old religion.
 - H. Forsaking the assembly. (Hebrews 10:24)
- IV. The nature of Apostasy.
 - A. Apostasy relates only to those who know the truth. This is one who has all the information about the gospel.

1. It is voluntary.	
2. It is habitual. (2 Timothy 2:12)	
3. The truly saved cannot continue in sin. (1 John 3:9)	
V. Consequences.	
A. There is no sacrifice for sin. If Jesus' sacrifice is rejected there is none left. (1 Samuel 3:14)	
B. There will be recompense and judgment. (John 6:66; Matthew 8:29; 3:12; 13:36)	
Application Questions:	
1. What is apostasy?	
2. Why should all believers consider the consequences of apostasy if there is security in salvation?	
3. Which route to apostasy grabs your attention the most? How might you respond differently in light of the warning?	

B. Apostasy rejects the truth.