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**Thursday, August 7, 1997**

**Subject:** Eternal security

**Dear Dr. Ryrie:** I see people whom I know to be long-time Christians that have stopped going to church, reading the Bible, and other practices that you usually see in the life of a believer. If you stop "walking with the Lord," are you ending your relationship with Him or jeopardizing the salvation you received? --Eric

**Dear Eric:** Regrettably, you are describing far too many Christians. When one is not walking with the Lord, he will forfeit areas of fellowship that he could have enjoyed in the family relationship. However, our heavenly Father does not kick him out of the family. Once in the family of God by faith in Christ, you will never be disowned, though you can lose the enjoyment of being in the family.

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