

THIS THING WORKS!

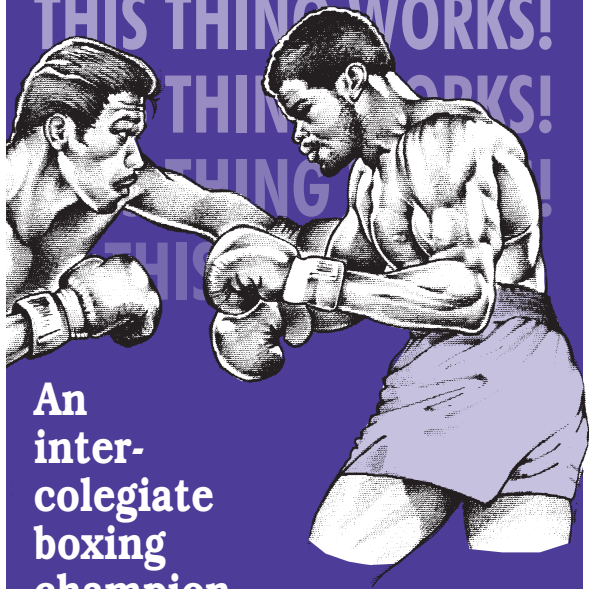
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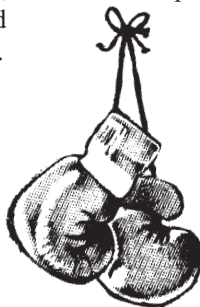


**An
inter-
collegiate
boxing
champion
tells why**

Can you be sure that there is a God, that the Bible is true, and that your soul is immortal? I have asked many people these questions, and in every case their answers revealed either ignorance, confusion or despair. Everyone thinks we need some sort of faith, but few know where to find it. One member of the college boxing team said he would give \$1000 for my inner peace. Another said he would give everything to have my faith.

Are you wondering where I got such special faith? I have nothing new. My faith is identical to that of Moses, Luther, Lincoln and many others all over the world. We have simply joined with the apostle Paul in saying that we know whom we believe, and we are persuaded that He is able to keep what we have committed to Him (2 Timothy 1:12). *We know God personally and have an eternal relationship with Him.*

Does all this sound crazy? It did to me, too, before I knew God. I did not want to believe because I didn't want God interfering with my plans. I wanted to run my own life without God getting in the way. However, this attitude



brought mental confusion. Life became meaningless. In my search for something better, God pointed me toward the Bible. I was amazed at what I found in it.

The Bible showed me my sinful condition before a holy God. He could not associate with me until the price was fully paid for my sins: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). Spiritual death and eternal separation from God were all that *life* had to offer me. But the Bible also showed me that *God* provided a Savior to die in my place and pay the price for my sins: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

God is in charge of the universe, and I am simply a criminal who has violated His laws. Justice condemns me to death, but the Son of God consented to die in my place, and then came back to life after He was crucified. He now lives! And we will, too, if we accept Him as our Savior: "If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9-10).

This thing called “new birth” works! Read about it yourself in the Gospel of John, chapter 3, verse 16: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” Or ask someone who is saved. Better yet, *accept Jesus as your Savior and see for yourself.* You may disagree with me. That’s O.K. I disagreed myself when I first heard it, but now I’m convinced that Jesus is all that the Bible claims Him to be.

Open the Bible. Examine its claims. If Jesus Christ is all the Bible claims Him to be, then you owe it to yourself to investigate His claims. Your eternal life depends on it! I’m sure you will discover that this thing called “salvation” really works: “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).
— *T. Finley*

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