

The Boxing Match

A Message from Jesus



Imagine that you're in a boxing ring, the spotlight is on you, and an enormous crowd is in the shadows. Everyone in the stands is excited, as this promises to be an outstanding match. You've been training hard. You've worked to be fit and in shape, to maintain endurance.

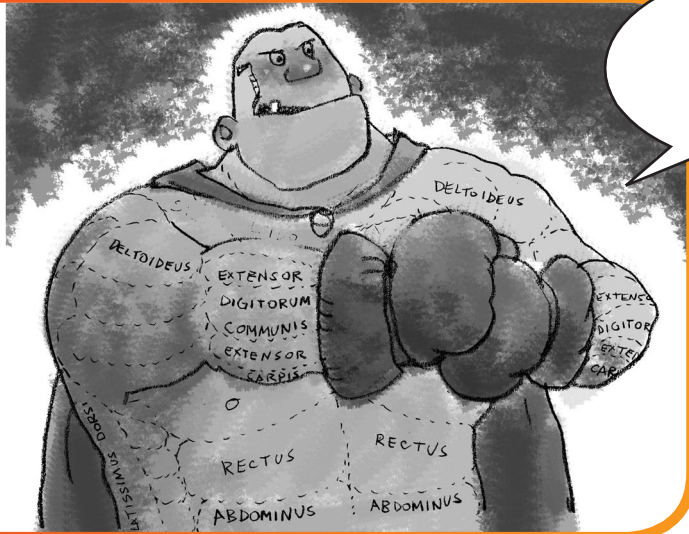
Sometimes I allow the Devil to bring difficult things into your life to help you grow strong and develop tenacity and grit. But despite what the Devil might bring your way, with My promises of victory and the power that can be found through praise, you're guaranteed a win!



Suddenly the crowd goes wild. Your opponent has arrived on the scene and is making his way to the ring with all the bravado and swagger of someone who has seemingly already won.

As he steps into the ring, you think that this is no small dude.

He looks over to your side of the ring and says with a sneer,



YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE!



Fear overtakes you, and you determine that there's just no way you are going to win this one.

Wait a minute! Rewind! Are you going to let this opponent fritz you out and gain your winner's right? Forget it! Not you! You're winning material. I know, because I've been training you. I'm your coach, and with Me on your side, I know you're ready for this.

You are of God ... and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world. (I John 4:4 AKJV) [eb]

He's the little wimp in disguise, not you. No matter how intimidating he may seem, he's got a weakness. Would you like to know what it is? He doesn't realize what you're made of inside. You've got determination that can't be beat, and you've got all of heaven on your side to boot!



WAIT A MINUTE!

So let's rewind to the point where your opponent steps into the ring with you. The starting signal has been given, you both start prancing around the ring, and he's over there looking scary, but you don't listen to your fears. Instead, you say to yourself, "With God's help I can't be beat!" And then you call on Me for strength, and you fill your mind with all the promises of power that I have given, power that is stored in your heart.

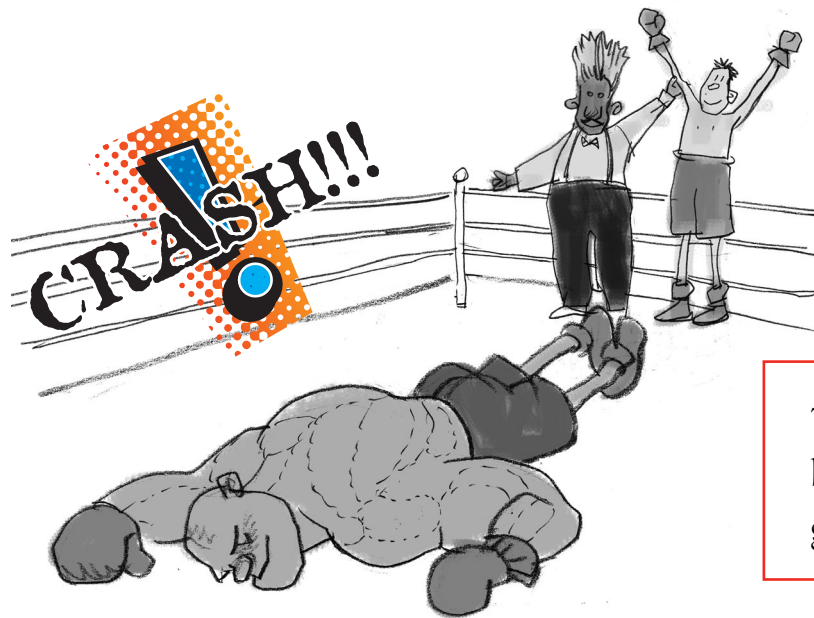
So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7 NLT)



And because he has underestimated your speed and thinks you're an easy target, you get in there with one quick punch of praise, and then another of power through My promises to you (aka Bible verses), and before you know it, he's been knocked down again, just where he belongs.



So who's the loser? He's the loser, because you've got Me on your side, and as a team we cannot fail! No matter what temptations, sins, confrontations, or difficulties the Devil may fight you with, you can always trust in My power in you to help you overcome. I will fight for you and with you.



The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen. (2 Timothy 4:18 NIV)

