

Imagine if you wanted to give me a brand new (very expensive) car, but I said "I can't take it! I feel embarrassed receiving such a gift...here's 10 cents for it." I'm sure you would be very insulted by such a pathetic offer of payment. Besides, if I pay for it, it is no longer a gift, it's a purchase...*it's mine by right*. When we talk of entering Heaven by being good, by trying to keep the Ten Commandments etc., we are tossing God 10 cents of "self-righteousness," which is a terrible insult to Him, in the light of His sacrifice. The only thing we can do is humble ourselves, repent of our sins, and receive the gift by trusting Jesus Christ alone.

Almighty God demonstrated how much He loves you when Jesus suffered for you on the cross. If you want to trust in your own goodness, then you are saying His agonizing death on the cross was in vain.

The Bible says, "For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." You *cannot* earn a gift.

When Jesus said to "believe" on Him, He was saying we should have faith in Him, in the same way you would trust a parachute to save you when you jump from a plane. You don't merely *believe* in the parachute -- *you put it on!*

Please don't "jump" without Jesus. If you die in your sins there is no second chance. God will give you justice, and you will end up in Hell forever. Any troubles you have at present are dwarfed by the trouble you are in with your Creator. His wrath abides upon you (John 3:36).

Confess your sins to God right now, put your trust in Jesus as Savior, *and you will pass from death to life*. Then read the Bible daily and obey what you read. Have faith in God, He will *never* let you down.

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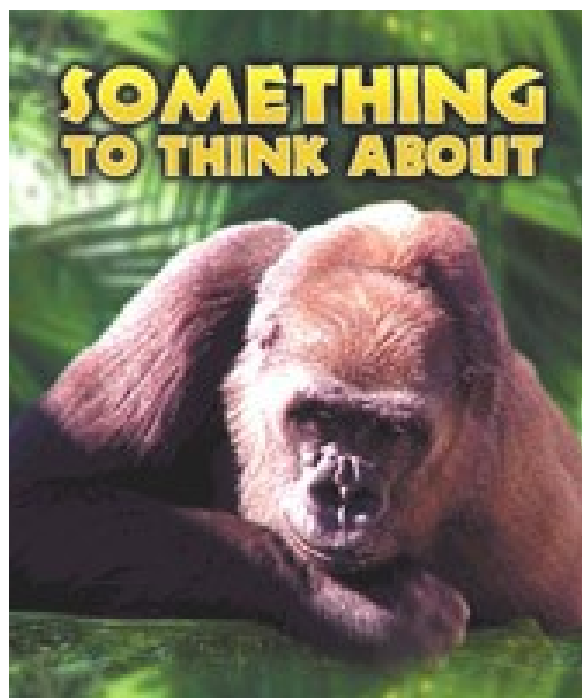
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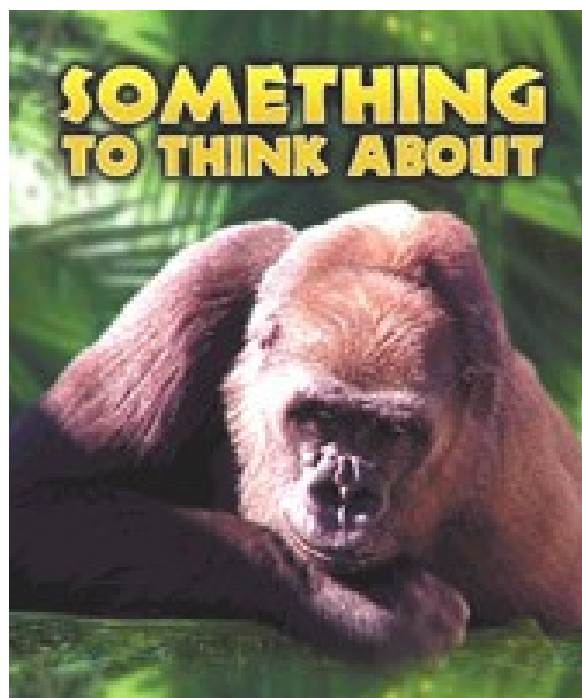
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