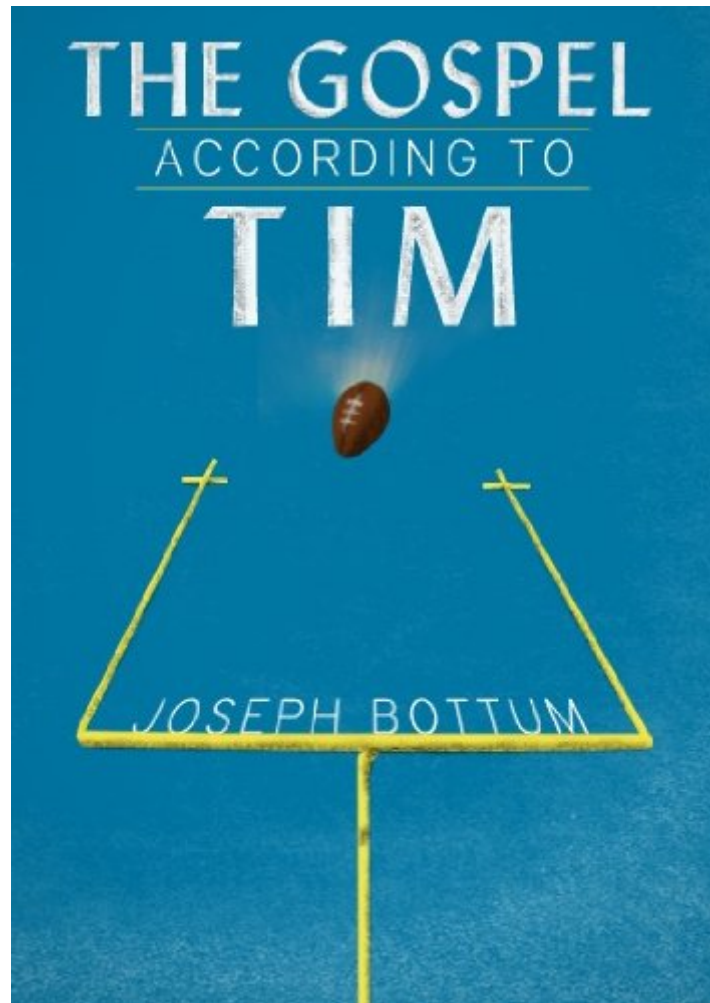




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The Gospel According To Tim (Kindle Single)



Synopsis

What's there left to say about Tim Tebow? He's brilliant and appalling, inspiring and annoying--a straightforward young man who somehow played and prayed his way into being the most enigmatic figure in American sports. In the essay-length Kindle Single "The Gospel According to Tim," Joseph Bottum argues that Tebow strikes a nerve because he has slipped beyond all the usual categories of our wink-and-nudge culture of irony. And he's done that mostly by being simply who he is: not a football-playing theologian but, in essence, a mystic. "Isn't that what everyone who has met Tebow does? Believe in him, I mean: believe that he's for real. The young man is drunk on charity, in the same way he's drunk on the endorphins that race through his body during his strenuous daily workouts. In the same way he's drunk on the excitement of winning and losing football games before roaring crowds. In the same way he's drunk on what the medieval mystics used to call "the gift of tears," weeping easily and often. In the same way he's drunk on his constant conversation with the Lord, referring all his victories and all his losses up to heaven. "Tim Tebow isn't a Christian theologian. He's a Christian mystic • intoxicated, as all mystics are, with God. He's King David, dancing in the joy of his youth before the Ark of the Covenant." Joseph Bottum, a writer in the Black Hills, is the author of the bestselling Kindle Single "Dakota Christmas." He is, the essayist Andrew Ferguson has written, "one of America's most gifted writers, with a perfect ear and a matchless style."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This 9,000 word essay uses Tim Tebow as a platform to make commentary on America and sports. The essay is divided into three parts, the first part examining how America reacts to Tebow, and, more broadly, how American sports and American faith intermingle. The second part is what I might pre-emptively describe as classic Joseph Bottum. It discusses Tebow's unfeigned earnestness in contrast to a culture steeped in irony. Americans tend to expect the subtle twist, the ideal to be exposed as a cover for a typically selfish agenda, the absurd or too-clever juxtaposition. Is that happening with Tebow? Is there more to his mystique, or is he simply a (desirable) rarity for our time? The third part considers Tebow's heart, and in doing so, suggests that the soul of evangelicalism yearns not so much for theological depth but ethical purity. For all this, Bottum seems more at home writing about the last half-century of Catholicism than about sports. And his Kindle Single memoir, *Dakota Thanksgiving*, is preferred above 'The Gospel According to Tim'. But for \$.99 you can't go wrong. Joseph Bottum is a great writer, and I would pay to read his Craigslist ads. You do not have to enjoy football to enjoy this Kindle Single.

Mr Bottum articulated the phenomena who is Tim Tebow very eloquently. He showed clearly that Tebow is not 'pushing his religion down our throats' and that if anything, given the fullness of Christianity he experiences at every moment, he is very reserved and private about it. Also that Tebow did not put himself in the limelight, but that the media and the fans put him there. I like how we come away from the essay with a feeling that Tebow is not someone to 'pin down'; that he is only age 24 and still forming; that at this point he is as definable as a mist. His being 'indefinable' gives one a sense that it will be wonderful to see him unfold.

Kudos to the author for writing this little book and to Mr. Tebow for standing strong in his beliefs. It is interesting to note that the scripture he bore on his face was read by over 1,000 people on the internet. Whether you are a Christian or not, this book provides insight into a young man who has been embroiled in controversy and holds his head high. I am a huge football fan and a Christian; I

enjoyed reading about well known NFL greats from the past. Mr. Tebow has stepped out on faith and he's an inspiration to many, including myself. It was a perfect small book that was easily read and enjoyable.

I have read many excellent articles on Tim Tebow, but Joseph Bottum's long essay is the best. Earlier today, I read several of the passages I highlighted with my kindle to a colleague at the university. He listened appreciatively and said, "That Bottum guy sure can write, can't he?" He sure can. Spring for the 99 cents and a really good read.

I believe Tim Tebow is exactly what you see. I mean that literally. If you don't believe in a personal God that cares for you, and Tim knows this, than you won't believe anything Tim says. If God has touched your life in a personal way than you understand where Tim comes from. He has a deep faith, that means you take the bad with the good and have gratitude for everything that happens in your life. The author gets this and points out the mumblings and grumblings from those who don't. Tim didn't write this book, but from the title you might think he did.

great reality!!! he's a warrior!! I could relate!! I could picture kiddos learning about God through Tims world! Teachers could use this 'tool'!! Good stuff!!

A good essay adds something new to the discussion of well-worn issues. The author writes a good essay by taking a topic much debated in the media and by the public and looking at it through a different lens. I am a casual football fan but because of the author's different perspective, I found the essay interesting and thought provoking and have recommended it to friends.

This an excellent essay offering insight on Tebow but also our perceptions of the man and of faith. Social justice meets Christian Mysticism in an unexpected vessel, a 24 year old evangelical protestant quarterback.

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