

# ELECTION NIGHT SPECIAL

By Rod

*Based on 1 Corinthians 3 vv 18,19. Illustrating that God's wisdom is very different from earthly wisdom and that the qualifications for election to Heaven are not the same as many people think.*

## CAST

<i>Commentator</i>	-	<i>Jonathan</i>
<i>Pundit</i>	-	<i>Kate</i>
<i>Conservative Candidate</i>	-	<i>Lord Luke Atme</i>
<i>Labour Candidate</i>	-	<i>Ernest Endeavour</i>
<i>Liberal Candidate</i>	-	<i>Charity Lovall</i>
<i>Monster Raving Loony Candidate</i>	-	<i>Faith Wisdom</i>
<i>Returning Officer</i>	-	<i>Male or female</i>

*The scene is for a typical election night result announcement. The four candidates are centre stage with the Pundit. The Pundit has a microphone. The Commentator is elsewhere – perhaps at a pulpit microphone – as if in the studio. The Returning Officer is offstage initially.*

COMMENTATOR Good evening and welcome to this election night special. We are at the constituency of New Jerusalem where the result will soon be known. Now, Kate, New Jerusalem is a constituency with some unusual features.

PUNDIT Yes, thank you, Jonathan, indeed it is. For a start it has only one voter.

COMM Some would say three.

PUN True. Perhaps its best summed up as being three in one.

COMM That does sound rather baffling. And what else is unusual about New Jerusalem?

PUN Well, anyone can be a candidate. Election is open to absolutely everyone. It doesn't matter who you are.

COMM So even a Bishop or a Lord could be elected?

PUN Yes, in fact one of the candidates before us tonight is a Lord – Lord Atme.

COMM That leads us naturally on to consider the four candidates - and we do have time for a brief word with each of them. Over to you, Kate.

PUN Thank you, Jonathan. First we come to the Conservative candidate, Lord Luke Atme. *[To Lord Atme]* Lord Atme could you give us a brief summary of your manifesto?

ATME Yes, Kate. I was christened and confirmed as a child, I've been a churchgoer all my life and, of course, I was born and brought up in a Christian country. Therefore I have no doubt that I will be elected to New Jerusalem.

PUN Thank you. And next we move to the Labour candidate, Ernest Endeavour. Please could you summarise your manifesto?

ENDEAVOUR Certainly, Kate. I believe that it's my works that matter. I've worked amongst the poor, I regularly give to charity and I make every attempt to live a good life. I feel that I deserve to be elected.

PUN Thank you. Next we have the Liberal candidate, Charity Lovall. Please could you tell the viewers at home your election platform?

LOVALL Well, Kate, I believe that the electorate of New Jerusalem – God – loves everyone. I fully expect to be elected because I do not believe he wants to turn anyone down. In fact, I think we will all get elected.

PUN That's an interesting slant on the election. And finally we come to the Monster Raving Loony Party candidate, Faith Wisdom. What have you to offer the electorate?

WISDOM Well, frankly, Kate, nothing at all! The full title of our party is "Monster Raving Loony - Fools For Christ Party" and I believe that I will be elected because the cross of Jesus was for me.

PUN Thank you. Now it's back to Jonathan.

COMM Well, Kate, Faith Wisdom certainly sounds crazy. Her party is aptly named.

PUN It would appear so, Jonathan.

*Enter Returning Officer*

COMM I see that the returning officer is about to announce the result.

RO I the returning officer for New Jerusalem declare the results to be as follows: Lord Luke Atme ..

COMM *[Hushed rapid interjection]* Conservative (I was born in a Christian country so I'll automatically be elected) party.

RO Nought votes. Ernest Honest Endeavour ...

COMM *[Hushed rapid interjection]* Labour (my good works have earned my election) party.

RO Nought votes. Charity Lovall ...

COMM *[Hushed rapid interjection]* Liberal (God loves everybody so why not me?) party.

RO Nought votes. Faith Grace Wisdom ...

COMM *[Hushed rapid interjection]* Monster Raving Loony (Fools for Christ) party.

RO One megavote. I thereby declare Faith Grace Wisdom elected to New Jerusalem.

COMM Well, Kate, that's a shock result. I certainly did not expect that.

PUN I think it's fair to say that almost nobody did. That result will have turned traditional electoral wisdom on its head.

READING Do not deceive yourselves. If any of you thinks he is wise by the standards of this age, he should become a "fool" so that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight.