

SPOILT FOR CHOICE

By Rod

This sketch looks at how Christians complicate their faith by the trappings of religious practice to the detriment of a clear simple message. Complications which may deter all but the most determined seeker.

The sketch runs through twice – once in a coffee bar [e.g. Starbuck's] and then in a 'Christian' bar designed to be a parallel of what happens in the previous encounter.

CAST

Customer *Male or female*

Bar attendant *Male or female*

Street vendor *Male or female*

Bar attendant is behind the bar. ENTER customer.

Attendant Good morning, sir [*or madam*], can I help you?

Customer Yes, I'd like a coffee please.

Att Would you like Colombian, Kenyan or Costa Rican?

Cus [*A bit surprised*] Oh, I don't know. Kenyan I suppose.

Att How would you like it? Filtered, latte, espresso, Americano, Cappucino, Frappucino, Mocca, Choca, Choca-Mocca?

Cus Goodness. I didn't realise there was so much choice. Americano.

Att Large, grande or supergrande?

Cus Large.

Att Black or white?

Cus White.

Att Cream or milk?

Cus Milk.

Att Skimmed, semi-skimmed or full fat?

Cus Semi-skimmed.

Att With or without sugar?

Cus With.

Att Is that white caster, white granulated, brown granulated, light brown, soft brown, Demerara, Candarel or Sweet'nLo?

Cus Demerara.

Att And would you like any of our special Sprinkles on top? We've got dark chocolate, milk chocolate, white chocolate, cinammon, vanilla, peppermint, hazelnut, Brazil nut, coconut,

Cus *[Exasperated]* Oh, for goodness sake. This is ridiculous. All I want is a coffee. I'll try somewhere else. *[Walks away]*

Att Please yourself.

[ENTER Street Vendor]

Cus I'd like a coffee please.

Vendor *[Producing coffee immediately]* Certainly, sir, here you are.

SCENE TWO

Bar attendant is behind the bar. ENTER customer.

Attendant Good morning, sir *[or madam]*, can I help you?

Customer Yes, I'd like to become a Christian please.

Att Would you like to be Catholic, Orthodox or Protestant?

Cus *[A bit surprised]* Oh, I don't know. Protestant I suppose.

Att How would you like it? Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Pentecostal, Reformed, Free ?

Cus Goodness. I didn't realise there was so much choice. Anglican.

Att Evangelical, Liberal or Anglo-Catholic?

Cus Evangelical.

Att Charismatic or non-Charismatic?

Cus Non-Charismatic.

Att With or without liturgy?

Cus With.

Att 1662, ASB or Book of Common Worship?

Cus ASB.

Att With or without a choir?

Cus With.

Att Is that robed with organ, unrobed with organ, robed with guitars, unrobed with guitars or unrobed with guitars and drums?

Cus Unrobed with guitars.

Att And would you like any of our special modern church features? We've got comfortable chairs, carpets, OHP, dataprojector, sound system, hearing loop, toilets, coffee bar, bookstall, front staging,

Cus *[Exasperated]* Oh, for goodness sake. This is ridiculous. All I want is to become a Christian. I'll try somewhere else. *[Walks away]*

Att Please yourself.

[ENTER Street Vendor]

Cus I'd like to become a Christian please.

Vendor Certainly, sir, let me tell you about Jesus.

THE END