

TRUE TO FORM

By Rod Pellereau

Based on Luke 13 VV 10-17. The story of the crippled woman healed at the synagogue.

CAST

Public Official

Sarah Abraham

Public official is sitting at a desk. There is a large pile of papers on the side of the desk nearest to the audience, plus other papers, files etc. There is another chair facing the desk.

Public Official Next please. *[Sarah enters]*

Sarah Good morning.

PO Good morning. Do take a seat.

Sarah *(Sitting down)* Thank you.

PO So what can I do for you?

Sarah It's about my Disabled Parking Badge.

PO Ah, well let me stop you there. I am not sure I can help you there. I cannot do anything until you have filled in Form DPBA.

Sarah DPBA?

PO Yes, Disabled Parking Badge Application. It is quite straightforward. You can find it on-line at www.galilleegov.com.

Sarah But .. er..

PO And you will also need to complete Form DPBDA.

Sarah Er.. DPBDA.

PO Yes, that is Disabled Parking Badge Duplicate Application. And, of course, Form CWOP.

- Sarah Complete Waste Of Paper?
- PO (*Irritated*) Citizens Wanting On-road Parking. As well as providing a Doctor's certificate to confirm that you are indeed disabled.
- Sarah But I am not disabled.
- PO (*Becoming angry*) Well then, you won't get a badge – obviously. (*Rising and pointing to exit*) Look, I really am very busy ..
- Sarah I am not disabled any more – and so I want to return my badge. (*Produces badge from her handbag and holds it out towards official*)
- PO (*Surprised. Sits down again*) You want to return your badge?
- Sarah Yes.
- PO (*Flustered*) This really is most irregular. (*Hunts through files, papers etc.*). I am not sure I have got a form to cover it. What did you say your name was?
- Sarah It is Sarah Abraham.
- PO (*going through files*) Sarah Abraham.. let me see. Ah yes, nice and early in the alphabet so easy to find. (*Pulls out her file*) Ah yes, here we are. Sarah Abraham. (*Looking at Sarah*) But you have had this badge for eighteen years.
- Sarah That's right, and very useful it has been for parking my donkey next to the market when I go shopping.
- PO (*Studying file*) And it says here that you are 'completely unable to stand up straight'. (*Looks at Sarah suspiciously*) You look pretty upstanding to me. (*Sternly*) You realise that fraudulent claims for Disabled Badges can lead to prosecution?
- Sarah But I am not applying for a badge – I am returning it.
- PO Well yes er .. I realise..
- Sarah I was unable to stand up straight – but now I am fine.
- PO Since when?

Sarah Since last Sabbath.

PO I find that hard to believe. None of the doctors' surgeries are open on the Sabbath. So this so-called operation of yours couldn't possibly have happened.

Sarah Oh, I wasn't cured in a surgery.

PO Well where did it happen then?

Sarah In the synagogue. And it wasn't by a doctor.

PO Who was it by?

Sarah Jesus.

PO (*Understanding*) Ah, Jesus. In that case I do have a form to cover it.

Sarah You do?

PO (*Producing form and handing it to Sarah*) Yes, it's this one – Form WTDBJ, open brackets, MC, close brackets.

Sarah WTDBJ, open brackets, MC, close brackets?

PO Wonderful Things Done By Jesus, open brackets, Miracle Cures, close brackets.
Complete that – and I'll add it to the pile. (*Pats pile of forms on desk*)

THE END