**THE VISITATION**

**By Rod**

*This sketch is based on Malachi 2:17 – 3:5. The scene features a headmaster and his two deputies meeting up at the start of a school day.*

*CAST*

*Headmaster Mr Priest*

*Deputy 1 Levi*

*Deputy 2 Jacob*

*Headmaster is seated at his desk. Other two enter.*

Levi Morning headmaster.

Head Morning Levi, morning Jacob.

Jacob You look rather pale, headmaster. Are you all right?

Head I’ve just opened this letter.

Jacob What does it say?

Head *(Handing letter to Jacob)* Read it for yourself.

Levi Who is it from?

Head GOD.

Levi You don’t mean…?

Head Yes, the Government Overhaul Department.

Levi I didn’t know that organisation still existed. What does it say Jacob?

Jacob *(Reading)* “Dear Mr Priest. Since Jerusalem Temple Academy has been designated a failing school.

Head Failing school! What a nerve! I have devoted my life to this school.

Jacob *(Still reading)* “Since Jerusalem Temple Academy has been designated a failing school, you should expect a visitation.

Levi Visitation! Oh, no! You know what that means?

Jacob Lesson plans! We’ll have to start preparing lessons with a starter and plenary, and with ideas for differentiation.

Levi Marking! We’ll have to take in their books and give them feedback with ‘two stars and a wish’.

Jacob We’ll have to work out a seating plan based on their individual needs.

Levi We’ll be expected to know their names!

Jacob What a nightmare!

Head We’ll have to carry out DBS checks on all the staff.

Levi That could be tricky in some cases.

Head And then there’s all the policies we will have to write.

Jacob Anti-bullying.

Head Anti-bullying! This school runs on bullying. We rely on the older ones to keep the others in check.

Levi How long have we got to sort all this out.

Head It doesn’t say.

Jacob *(Reading)* “You should expect the visitation in the future.”

Levi “In the future”. That could be ages.

Head True. I can’t remember when we last had a visitation.

Jacob Certainly before my time.

Levi I expect this letter is just a frightener that they sent to all schools. It doesn’t mean anything. GOD is not really going to visit us.

Head You are right, Levi. I expect it is just computer generated. I am with you. I don’t believe GOD really exists anymore.

Jacob It does go on to say *(Reading)* “To help prepare you for GOD’s visitation we will be sending an advisor. You should expect him very soon.”

Levi Well there you are; this visitation is ages away. We don’t have to do anything until this advisor turns up. If he ever turns up. Which we very much doubt.

In the meantime we can carry on just as normal.

Jacob Yes, we can continue with our regime which is firm but fair.

Head *(Rising and grabbing cane)* Well firm at least. Levi, grab the bell. Let’s show those little perishers who’s boss. *(Exits followed by the other two. Levi rings bell as he exits)*

*THE END*