

WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

By Rod

This sketch is based on John 10 vv 22-39 and contrasts how Jesus dealt with opposition with the Way we may tend to 'dry up' when challenged over our faith.

CAST

Alan *Strong, aggressive character*
Ben *Knowledgeable. Friend of Alan.*
Chris *A Christian. Works with Adam and Ben.*
Waitress

The scene is a wine bar. There is a table with three chairs. Waitress could be on stage going about her work. Enter Adam, Ben and Chris. Adam and Ben are ebullient. They have just clinched a big business deal. Chris is much more subdued. He is lost in his thoughts.

Alan That table's free. Let's grab it. *[They sit down]*

Ben What a triumph, eh?

Alan Yes indeedy. They fell for it hook line and sinker.

Waitress What can I get you gentlemen?

Ben A Stella for me please, love.

Alan And me. How about you, Chris?

Chris What? Er.

Alan And a water for my friend.

Waitress Still or sparkling?

Alan Make it sparkling. We're celebrating.

Ben We certainly are, Al. Celebrating a great partnership. *[Alan & Ben do a 'high five']*

Alan That little stunt we pulled worked like a dream.

Ben You're very quiet, Chris.

Chris What? Er.

Ben Is it perhaps that your ‘Christian scruples’ were upset by our little scam?

Alan Yes, maybe you’re right, Ben. I’ve been meaning to ask you, Chris: what exactly is it that you Christians believe?

Chris What? Er.

Ben I know what his mate, Joe, would say.

Alan ‘Holy Joe’ you mean?

Ben Yes. He’d say that you and me, Al, are ‘sinners’; that we’re going to Hell and our only hope is to throw ourselves at the mercy of Jesus. Isn’t that right, Chris?

Chris What? Er.

Alan What a nerve! Calling us ‘sinners’. We’re no worse than anyone else. Wherever does he get his ideas from?

Ben Oh – from the Bible. He says God wrote it, so it has to be true, word for word. That’s right, isn’t it Chris?

Chris What? Er.

Alan What utter tosh. Of course it’s not true word for word. Modern science has shown that the Bible’s account of Creation is a load of rubbish. You’ve got to admit that, Chris, given that you’re an intelligent man.

Chris What? Er. *[Waitress approaches with drinks]*

Waitress Here are your drinks, gents. *[To Chris]* What were you having, sir?

Chris What? Er.

Waitress Ah yes, I remember now. You were having the sparkling water. And it’s the Stellas for you two gentlemen.

Alan *[Handing £10 note to waitress]* Here you are love. That should cover it. Keep the change for yourself.

Waitress Oh, thanks very much. I can see you are celebrating. *[She leaves]*

Ben What bugs me is what Christians believe about Jesus.

Alan You mean about him being God rather than just a man.

Ben Yes, and Joe says that that means that Jesus is the *only* way to God. All the other religions are no good.

Alan Cor, what arrogance! *[To Chris]* You Christians make me sick with your ‘holier than thou’ attitude.

Chris What? Er.

Alan *[Standing aggressively]* We earned you a nice little bonus in your pay packet by the deal we clinched today. But all you can do is stand in judgement over us, because we bent the rules a little. Isn’t that so?

Chris What? Er.

Alan Well, what are you going to do about it?

Chris What? Er.

Alan ‘Cos if you tell the Boss – do you know what *I’ll* do?

Chris What? Er.

Alan I’ll leave you to guess.

Chris What? Er.

Ben *[Offering Chris his glass of water]* Here’s your water, Chris. You look as though you need it.

Chris What? Er. No I need to pass water. Excuse me. *[He rushes off stage as if desperate for the loo]*

THE END