

TESTIMONY
Written By Cleveland McLeish 1

LIST OF CHARACTERS

Paul
Joe, Moe & Doe
June
July
August
September

PROP LIST

Batons (rubber)
A bible
Walking stick
Bandages & a caste

COSTUMES

Modern day costumes are appropriate for this sketch.

SETTING

Only a podium is required at CS. The rest of the stage can be bare.

THE SCRIPT

Paul enters with bible in hand and walks to the podium. He sets his bible down, straightens his jacket; opens the book and reads from its pages.

PAUL: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For Thy Sake We Are Killed All The Day Long; We Are Accounted As Sheep For The Slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. (Romans 8: 35-37)

Enter three plain-clothes policemen.

DOE: What are you doing?

PAUL (*smiles sheepishly*): Nothing.

MOE: Is preach you preaching, boy?

PAUL: Sorta.

JOE: We don't want no preacher boy down here.

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MOE: So if you smart you take your little fairy tale book and...

DOE, MOE & JOE: Run!!!

PAUL: I can't.

JOE: Why?

PAUL: Because God sent me.

JOE: Well we have a little message for your God.

PAUL: What!!?

Joe, Moe and Doe start to rain blows on Paul with their make-shift batons.

JOE: We don't want no preacher down here.

Paul is beaten to the ground.

JOE: Pick him up and carry him come.

Joe heads offstage while Moe and Doe pick Paul up and drag him offstage.

ENTER June and July

JUNE: You hear what happen to Paul?

JULY: Yep.

JUNE: Sad, sad story.

JULY: I hear say them beat him until eye water run out of his nose.

JUNE: A lot a people try warn him, but him too stubborn. I just hope him learn him lesson.

They exit.

Paul re-enters all bandaged up. He walks to the podium, opens the bible and again starts to read from the book.

PAUL: But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. For

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we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord...(II Corinthians 4: 4-5)

Enter Policemen.

JOE: I can't believe my eyes.

MOE: You again!?!

PAUL: I rather to fear God than man.

JOE: The only problem is...

MOE, JOE & DOE: We don't want no preacher down here.

They beat Paul again to the ground.

JOE: Pick him up, again and carry him come, again.

Joe leads them offstage, again.

Enter August and September.

AUGUST: You hear about Paul.

SEPTEMBER: Eh eh. I hear say him walking with a stick.

AUGUST: Them broke up him bones, my dear. I hear say him look worst than a dog that truck hit down a road.

SEPTEMBER: You go look for him.

AUGUST: No sar...but old foot Suzie tell me everything.

SEPTEMBER: Man too stubborn and hard ears man.

They exit.

Paul enters, Again, this time walking with an aid and his left arm in a sling.

He walks to the podium and again reads from the bible.

PAUL: And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: For my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for

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Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong. (II Corinthians 12:9-10)

Enter policemen.

JOE: What is this before my eyes!!?

MOE: Can't be!!

JOE: You, again!?!

DOE: You kick him up you lick him down him bounce right back, what a...

JOE, MOE & DOE: ...Hard man to die.

Joe gestures to Moe and Doe.

JOE: Come here.

They walk to the side.

JOE: What is it? We lose we touch.

MOE: I never see anything like it.

DOE: Neither me.

MOE: What him have that we don't have?

JOE: I don't know, but I want it.

Joe approach Paul. Moe and Doe follows behind.

They throw down their weapons before Paul.

JOE: Alright, preach, preacher!!

PAUL: For God so love the world, that He gave His only begotton Son, that whosoever beleiveth on Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For he came not into the world to condemn it, but that through Him all might be saved.

Long pause as Joe's eyes well with tears.

JOE: Only son?

PAUL: Yes.

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JOE: Him one boy?

Paul nods.

Joe's knee weaken. Moe and Doe brace him up.

JOE: Carry me away, quick.

They exit.

Paul turns to the audience and reads from the book again.

PAUL: Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not? If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities. The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which is blessed for evermore, knoweth that I lie not.
(II Corinthians 11:25-31)