

## **Climate Sunday – A drama where God and Satan are in conversation. Based on book of Job Ch1**

God: well, well, ... the wanderer returns. Where on earth have you been? More worryingly, what have you been up to?

Satan: Oh, you know, strutting around the planet here and there. Ducking and diving, bobbing and weaving. And I must say, God, you truly have excelled yourself this time. What a wonderful creation. So many colours and textures and intricate details. I love what you have done with the fiords of Norway, and the mountain ranges - who would have thought you could have invented so many shades of purple. Wonderful.

God: Well, I'm quite pleased with myself. But I doubt you've come to pay a compliment. What have you really come for?

Satan: O God, you are so cynical. Though now you mention it, I do have an idea I'd like to propose. .. Truly, you have made a wonderful world. But how good is it really? Come on God, you have created something on a massive scale. It knits together in the most ingenious ways. But I do believe there is a crucial glitch.

God: oh? And what would be...?

Satan: Why, the human being of course. It was all very worthy of you to so imaginatively create an image in your image. Personally, I feel there is a little pride in that which is really not worthy of you, a little arrogance even, which will be this creation's downfall.

God: Nonsense. Look at my man Job. What do you make of him now? Still spiritual, moral, good living. Still giving me total respect. Still steering clear of evil. He passed the acid test and his integrity's intact, even though, for no good reason, you were hell bent on destroying him.

Satan: Yeah, but he's not exactly stereotypical, is he? I reckon that if you hit any human being with something really nasty – something that hurts physically, emotionally, spiritually – they'll spend their last breath cursing you.

God: Never.

Satan: I beg to differ. Give me the human and I'll prove to you how arrogant you have been, for human will not only destroy themselves, they'll destroy your creation. Indeed, a person will give up beauty before they ever give up power. I'm sure it's so.

God: nonsense.

Satan: And a person will give up on justice – before they give up the coffee they drink.

God: I don't believe it is so.

Satan: And a person will turn a blind eye to a changing climate before they choose a different lifestyle.

God: Do you really think humans are that shallow? What about the good they do? They are wonderfully made. When you look in their eyes you see a reflection of love. When you create each one's fingerprints, or whisper their name, calling them into the world, they are the image of heaven. When you fill a flower with perfume, or colour an autumn leaf with sunsets, you know their souls soar with the breath and beauty of it.

Satan: Yes, but when a person does not get what they want, they will curse you to your face. They will take the good, but not the bad. Simple fair-weather fans. Worse still, they'll deny their part in the web of creation. They will believe they stand against it, willing to fight, as ruler, as sovereign...

God: You think so? Well, have your way with them then. Take the human and see if it is true. I created them with a love that is part of their every atom. They will know the truth, they will see the wonder, they will live in justice, they will share what I have given them, and they will step lightly in this world. They will not covet it, but care for it. It is how I created them. And they know their Creator.

Satan: we'll see, we'll see...

God: Yes, we shall.....