

In As Much

By
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Adapted by Greg Edge

CHARACTERS

MAN 1
MAN 2
MAN 3

(Three men stand with their backs to the audience)

MAN 1

(turning around and beginning to pray)

Mornin' Lord, it's (looks at watch) ah... ah ...oh my goodness! I'm going to be late for work. I gotta go ... Have a good day anyway. *(Returns to original position)*

MAN 2

(turning around and turning to a Bible verse)

"In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me."
(Praying) Dear Lord, please be with me today, guide me in all that I do, and help me to do what you would want me to do. Amen. *(Returns to original position)*

(MAN 1 and MAN 3 turn around and walk toward each other, accidentally bumping into each other)

MAN 1

(angry)

Hey! What's your problem, buddy? Why didn't you watch where you were goin'?
You blind or somethin'?

MAN 3

(searching on the ground)

Can you please help me. I just lost my contact lens.

MAN 1

(frustrated)

You *would* have to lose your contacts! Can't you find it yourself? I have to go to work. What color is it?

MAN 3

It's a clear contact.

MAN 1
(sweeping ground with his foot)
It's here somewhere.

MAN 3
Oh, sir, please don't do that!

MAN 1
Hey, look here, I'm goin' to be late to work. Have a great day. Praise the Lord
anyhow. *(MAN 1 returns to original position)*

MAN 3
But sir! Oh man, what is this? I can't see a thing.

MAN 2
(turns around and notices MAN 3)
Hey, what's up? Lose something?

MAN 3
Yeah. This guy bumped into me and I lost my contact lens.

MAN 2
(backing up)
Why didn't you say something or wouldn't have walked so close. Here ... *(starts searching)*

MAN 3
Can you help me to find it?

MAN 2
What color is it?

MAN 3
It's clear.

MAN 2
I got a blue one, so ... Wait, wait! Hold it! Be very still. *(MAN 3 freezes. MAN 2 picks the contact lens carefully off MAN 3's sleeve)* This it?

MAN 3
(Looking at it very closely)
Oh yeah. It is. *(Takes it and puts it in)*

MAN 2

Wash it, there you go ... you got it. All right!

MAN 3
Ohhh! I can see again.

MAN 2
I gotta go

MAN 3
Thank you so much. You have a good day.

MAN 2
Bye.

(They both return to original position)

(MAN 3 turns around and becomes a five-year-old. He rides his bike around the stage once and then falls down with a crash and a wail. He holds his knee and rocks back and forth crying loudly. MAN 1 turns around and notices MAN 3)

MAN 1
(Yelling)
T-o-m-m-m-y! *(Pause)* What's the m-a-a-a-t-t-e-r?

MAN 3
(still crying)
I was riding my bi-i-i- ... f-e-l-l-l-l ...*(points to knee and wails the louder)*

MAN 1
You're such a klutz! Why don't you learn to ride your bike without crashing all the time.

MAN 3
(pointing to knee)
...kiss?...

MAN 1
You want me to kiss that?! *(Kisses his own hand and slaps MAN 3's knee hard before returning to original position. MAN 3 cries even wilder)*

MAN 2
(turns around and notices MAN 3)
Hey, shhh ...

MAN 3

(tries to explain what happened while crying, does the motions to illustrate)

MAN 2

Want me to kiss it and make it better?

MAN 3

(quiets down)

MAN 2

(kisses hand and carefully touches knee)

MAN 3

Ahhhhh...

MAN 2

There you go. You'll be OK now. Let's get you home with this bike.

MAN 3

OK *(sniff)* all right.

MAN 2

Be careful now, OK?

MAN 3

OK

MAN 2

Keep that helmet on, OK?

MAN 3

OK

MAN 2

Bye bye now.

MAN 3

Bye

(both return to original positions)

(MAN 3 turns around and becomes a mentally retarded man)

MAN 3
(counting on fingers)
One....two.....four *(giggles to himself)*

MAN 1
(turns around and notices MAN 3)
Excuse me, could you help me out? My clock's gone on the fritz again. Could you tell me what time it is?

MAN 3
One

MAN 1
Thank you.

MAN 3
Two

MAN 1
You said it was one!

MAN 3
Four

MAN 1
(giving him a shove to the shoulder)
Would you get out of here! *(MAN 1 returns to original position)*

MAN 3
(rubs shoulder and looks bewildered)

MAN 2
(turning around and noticing MAN 3, worried)
Was that the last bus?
Are there any more buses?

MAN 3
One

MAN 2
(nods)

MAN 3
Two Four

MAN 2

(surprised, but helpful)
Let me tell you a little secret.
That's not right.

MAN 3
What!! It is *too*.

MAN 2
Not it's not, watch. *(Holding up fingers)* One, two, three.

MAN 3
No it aint.

MAN 2
Watch. Do it with me. *(They do it together)* One, two, three. *(MAN 3 has four fingers)*

MAN 3
That's four!

MAN 2
OK, OK, Let's do it real slow. Take one. *(Holds up one finger. MAN 3 follows)* All right.

MAN 3
OK

MAN 2
Take two. *(Holds up two fingers on the other hand. MAN 3 follows)* Bump them together.

MAN 3
(bumping them together hard)
OOOWWWW!!!!

MAN 2
OK,OK. Gentle now. One, two, three.

MAN 3
One, two, three. *(Getting three this time. His eyes bug out)* Hey, that's pretty neat.

MAN 2
All right. That's our secret.

MAN 3

Our secret. OK

MAN 2
Here's my bus. I gotta go.

MAN 3
OK, OK, Bye bye. Our secret.

MAN 2
Bye now. *(Returns to original position)*

MAN 3
One, two, three. *(Giggles and returns to original position)*

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*(MAN 3 turns around and becomes Jesus standing at the pearly gate to the right.
MAN 1 and MAN 2 turn around and line up at the gate with MAN 2 in front)*

MAN 3
Welcome Mrs. Jones. Welcome to my kingdom. I have a special place prepared
for you. *(Places a crown on imaginary Mrs. Jones)*

MAN 1
(standing in line snapping fingers and singing)
O when the saints, go marching in ... *(etc.)*

MAN 3
(hugging MAN 2)
(real name)! Welcome! Welcome to my kingdom! *(Motioning behind him)* All this
is yours.

MAN 2
(kneeling)
What did I ever do to deserve this?

MAN 3
(placing crown on MAN 2's head)
As you have don it unto the least of these you have done it unto me. Come in.
Look! All this is yours. *(MAN 2 walks in, looks around, and returns to original
position. MAN 3 starts to close the great doors)*

MAN 1

Whoa!! Wait a minute! Just a minute! I think that I'm supposed to be in there!
(Laughs self-righteously)

MAN 3

I'm sorry. I don't know you.

MAN 1

Well of course you know me! I'm (real name)! I worked at Timber Ridge Camp for (#) long years, Lord. You can't forget service like that!

MAN 3

I'm sorry. I don't know you.

MAN 1

Well, there must be some mistake. Check your books. Probably under (letter) for (last name) Not very many of those (last name)s you know. *(MAN 3 doesn't find his name)* Oh, well, um, Maybe it's under (job). I was a (job) once, you know. Boy, I didn't know you had clerical errors up here, Lord.

MAN 3

I'm sorry, (name), but your name is not written in the Book of Life.

MAN 1

Well there must be some mistake. Check your other books. Check your scrapbooks. Check your big computer. Ask my angel, he was there.

MAN 3

There are no mistakes in heaven. Do you remember one time, you bumped into a man on the street. He had lost his contact lens and he asked if you would help him.

MAN 1

Oh sure! I remember that, but Lord, you understand. I was late for work and you know how it is... It's important for a Christian to set a good example in the work place and be on time. Doing my Christian duty.

MAN 3

Yes, (name), but that was me.

MAN 1

That was you, Lord?

MAN 3

Do you remember a little boy name Tommy? He used to ride his bicycle around your neighborhood.

MAN 1

Tommy! You mean Tommy the community klutz, the kid that couldn't even ride a tricycle without training wheels. He was the dumbest kid I've ever seen!

MAN 3

(Name) ... That dumb kid was me too.

MAN 1

That was you, Lord? You were Tommy?

MAN 3

(name), Do you remember one day you were waiting at the bus station. You had nothing to do and there was this man that had a hard time counting, and he wanted your help?

MAN 1

Aw yeah. I remember him. He was the bus station idiot. *(Mimicking)* One and two is ... *(clearing throat)* Don't tell me that was you too, Lord.

MAN 3

That's right, (name). That was me too.

MAN 1

Well, why didn't you say something! Why didn't you tell me! I would have treated you better if I woulda known. Why didn't you say something?

MAN 3

But didn't I say, "In as much as you have done it unto the least of these... you have done it unto me"? Didn't I say "Love your neighbor as yourself"? (Name), I want you to be here. I've prepared a special place just for you, long before you were born. But you see, you wouldn't be happy here. You know, you did a lot a things, but you never took the time to get to know me. That's why I don't think you would be happy here. I'm sorry, (name).

(MAN 1 begins to walk off slowly as MAN 3 slowly closes the door. MAN 1 looks back longingly as MAN 3 shuts the door. MAN 1 snaps fingers and both return to original positions)