

HEAVEN SMELLS LIKE CHICKEN

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A TV reporter interviews a man who claims to have seen Heaven.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: Keep the pace fast, and let your actors ad lib a bit. The crazier and faster it is, the funnier it gets.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 1M, 1F

THEME: Heaven

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Revelation 21

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Seeker Services; sermon illustration

CHARACTERS:

MYRA - A news reporter

CLETUS - A guy who thinks he went to Heaven

PROPS: A microphone

COSTUMES: Nice TV clothes for Myra, redneck fashion for Cletus

SOUND: Wireless mics if desired

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: The trailer park

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Myra is on stage holding a microphone. Cletus stands next to her.

MYRA: Myra Wilks here for the ten o'clock news at the home of one Cletus Burger, who claims that he witnessed something truly fantastic. Mr. Burger, is it true that you saw Heaven?

CLETUS: Yeah, I did!

MYRA: Did you actually visit Heaven and come back?

CLETUS: I think so. Is this Earth?

MYRA: Yes.

CLETUS: Then I guess I did come back.

MYRA: Mr. Burger, the whole world wants to know what Heaven is like. What do you remember about Heaven?

CLETUS: Well, it smells like chicken.

MYRA: Chicken??

CLETUS: Greasy, yummy, tasty fried chicken.

MYRA: Heaven smells like... chicken?

CLETUS: Yes ma'am! Why the moment I stepped into Heaven, all I could smell was chicken!

MYRA: Was there actually chicken in Heaven?

CLETUS: Oh they had so much chicken, you wouldn't believe it! I saw fried chicken, grilled chicken, spicy chicken, chicken strips, chicken sandwiches, chicken nuggets, chicken wings, chicken livers, chicken gizzards, and chicken dip. That ain't chicken, but it sure tasted good on chicken.

MYRA: Was there anything else besides chicken?

CLETUS: Why sure! They had mashed potatoes and gravy, cole slaw, baked beans, corn on the cob.

MYRA: Sounds nice.

CLETUS: I didn't know where to begin! But then the Lord sent an angel to help me.

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MYRA: You saw an angel?

CLETUS: Sure did!

MYRA: What did she look like?

CLETUS: Well, she had blonde hair, blue eyes, and a big ol' mole on the side of her face.

MYRA: Did she have wings and a halo?

CLETUS: No, but she had a hair net and a red shirt.

MYRA: A hair net and a red shirt?

CLETUS: That's right!

MYRA: Wow. That's... actually a little disappointing she didn't have wings.

CLETUS: Well, she served me up some wings. Does that count?

MYRA: Tell me, did you see anyone you knew in Heaven?

CLETUS: Sure did! My cousin Jim Bob was there!

MYRA: Cousin Jim Bob?

CLETUS: I hadn't seen him in a dog's age, but there he was, eating chicken out of a bucket with God's face right on the side.

MYRA: You mean you saw the face of God?

CLETUS: Oh yeah! His face was everywhere. On the buckets of chicken, on the angels' shirts, on my cup of soda.

MYRA: *(beginning to doubt)* I'm curious, Mr. Burger. What did God look like?

CLETUS: Well let me see. He had white hair.

MYRA: White hair.

CLETUS: And a little white beard.

MYRA: Go on.

CLETUS: He wore a string tie around his neck, kind of old fashioned like.

MYRA: String tie.

CLETUS: And black glasses.

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MYRA: So according to you, Heaven smells like chicken, has all kinds of chicken...

CLETUS: And the fixin's.

MYRA: ...with angels in hair nets and red shirts that have the picture of a man with white hair, a beard, a string tie, and glasses?

CLETUS: That's it!

MYRA: That's not Heaven! That's a Kentucky Fried Chicken!

CLETUS: Really?

MYRA: Yes!

CLETUS: Then why did I see Jim Bob?

MYRA: Is Jim Bob dead?

CLETUS: No, but he don't like fried chicken neither!

..... Lights down.

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