



The Light of the World

Content and Purpose: An experimental sketch, that remains to be revised. Tackles the question of what's gone wrong with the world, and how Jesus came to restore man to God.

Cast: 6 people – (3 men, 2 women, 1 either) – Jesus, Man 1, Man 2, Woman 1, Woman 2, Narrator

Starting positions: 5 people standing in line, heads down – Narrator offstage

Woman (1)

Man (2)

Jesus

Woman (3)

Man (4)

Script and Action:

There is a light that has come into the world

Everyone raises head except Jesus

Jesus is the light of the world

Jesus raises head

The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has never overcome it

On 'overcome', 1 and 2 bow heads, and cover them with their hands

But men prefer darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil

On 'deeds', 3 and 4 bow heads and cover with hands

The world's in a mess...so what's gone wrong?

All raise heads...pose of 'I don't know'

The news?

2 and 4 mime reading newspaper, others look over shoulder

The weather?

1 and 3 open umbrellas, 2 and 4 cower under them

The destruction of the rainforests?

2 is a tree, 1 starts chopping, 4 yells 'Timber' and 3 catches 2

Everybody's talking about it

Both couples mutter to one another

War?

1 and 3 strike others to the ground

Hunger?

Clutching stomachs in agony

Loneliness?

Two couples turn backs on each other

Who's to blame for all this? That's what I'd like to know

Everyone shrugs

The government?

2 yells 'Order in the House', others shout 'Hear, Hear'



The workers?
4 people line up as though on factory production line

Europe?
Each speaks in a different language

Inflation?
Each puffs up their stomach

Deflation?
Each crumples down

The arms race?
All run on the spot, flailing arms

Yours wife or husband?
Couples embrace, then women mime slapping faces of men

No
Back to original pose

Evil things come right from the heart of man...

Evil thoughts

Anger
Both couples cross arms in anger

Adultery
Middle woman and middle man push 1 and 4 away and embrace

Gossip
1 and 4 phone each other and talk

Theft
3 takes 2's wallet

Murder
2 stabs 3 in back – she collapses

And those who sin are...you and me
Everyone points to each other

Surely, Jesus has born our griefs and carried our sorrows in his body on the cross
Jesus raises head and takes up crucifixion pose, as 1 and 4 grab his hands, and 2 and 3 take his feet.

There he died...(pause)...but three days later he rose from the grave
Jesus' head slumps... ..he resurrects after the pause

He came to his own people, but they did not accept him
Jesus steps forward and offers hand to 1 and 2 – they reject him and turn away

But some did accept him, and those he gave the gift of eternal life
Jesus offers hand to 3 and 4, who kneel in worship