

DIVIDED WE FALL

By Rod

Based on a joke that has been circulating in Christian circles for some years, this sketch highlights the divisions that exist in the church today. Those using it might wish to rewrite the exact 'divisions' mentioned to suit the audience.

CAST

Suicide *Person about to commit suicide*

Christian *Christian by-passer who rushes to the rescue*

Enter Suicide looking depressed and distraught. Perhaps muttering to him/herself 'I can't go on', etc. Moves to front of stage where there could be a sign saying 'Danger Cliff Edge' or something equivalent. Stops at edge and looks as if he/she is about to jump.

Christian rushes on and grabs Suicide just as he/she is about to step off.

Christian Stop! Don't do it!

Suicide Why not? I've nothing to live for.

C That can't be true.

S It is. I've lost everything: my job, my home, my wife, my children my Nintendo Playstation. Everything.

C Things may be bad but taking your life is a huge step.

S No it isn't. *[Looks over cliff and puts one foot out]* It's a very small one.

C *[Realising and grabbing S]* No, stop. Don't you have any belief in God?

S *[Hesitantly]* Well, yes, I suppose I do.

C Is your belief in a God who is present in everything or as a Supreme Being.

S A Supreme Being I suppose.

C Well, there's a coincidence, so do I. Would you describe yourself as a Christian – or are you from another religion?

S Christian.

C What a coincidence, so am I. Are you Catholic or Protestant?

S Protestant.

C What a coincidence, so am I. C of E or non-conformist?

S C of E.

C What a coincidence, so am I. High church or low church?

S Low church.

C What a coincidence, so am I. Charismatic or non-charismatic?

S Non-charismatic, although I hold that all believers receive the Holy Spirit at conversion.

C I couldn't have put it better myself. These coincidences are amazing. We have so much in common. God simply must have sent me to help you. Do you believe in infant or adult baptism?

S Infant.

C That's incredible, so do I. Are you for or against women priests?

S *[Looking much more cheerful and self-confident]* I'm very much for.

C *[Expression changes. Pushes Suicide off stage who falls off screaming.]* Heretic. You deserve to die.

THE END