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Act One

After **Jehovah** creates the Universe, with the assistance of **Gabriel**, **Lucifer**, and other angels, **Lucifer** provokes him into making a wager about what will happen if he gives human beings free will. **Jehovah** thinks it will all work out, **Lucifer** begs to differ. The winner of the bet will become God.

The first test is **Adam** and **Eve** in the Garden of Eden. They eat the Forbidden Fruit, with some prompting from **Lucifer**, and are expelled, leaving **Adam's** first wife **Lilith** behind. **Lucifer** claims victory, but **Jehovah** insists on another trial without interference. We therefore pass on to the story of **Cain** and **Abel** and the first murder, after which **Jehovah** in his anger decides the Creation was a terrible mistake and vows to destroy it in a great Flood. But he relents and suggests to **Noah** that he should build the Ark, thus saving life on Earth.

Gabriel suggests that people simply need to work together, and based on this he teaches the **citizens of Babel** to develop civilisation. However, **Lucifer**, upset by **Jehovah's** double-dealing, encourages them build a tower up to Heaven, which provokes **Jehovah** to destroy it, and humanity is back to square one.

Jehovah is depressed, so to cheer him up **Gabriel** suggests a visit to his greatest fans – the **ladies of Sodom**. But once again **Lucifer** puts a spoke in his wheel, spiking the punch so that they lose their decorum altogether, and in disgust **Jehovah** banishes everyone to bondage in Egypt.

Now **Gabriel** has another bright idea, and **Moses** is sent down to liberate the **Hebrew slaves** – which he does, but soon finds himself unable to meet the people's expectations. The solution to this is the Ten Commandments, although these simple rules are quickly over-complicated by the Hebrews.

Therefore, **Jehovah** decides it's time to step in himself, and incarnates as Jesus. The **Three Magi** duly present the infant with gifts. **Lucifer** is appalled and furious. As **Jesus** is gathering disciples, he intervenes to have him punished by the authorities. The Act closes with their lament for **Jesus**.

Act Two

Jesus visits **Lucifer** in Hell in order to gloat, and we proceed to the Resurrection. He reveals himself to **Mary Magdalene**, but no sooner has he left than his plan is hijacked by **Paul**. Once again, **Lucifer** claims victory, but **Gabriel** has had another brainwave: the union of Church and State.

This takes the form of **Constantine the Great**, who, with encouragement from his mother **Helena** and two shysters named **Carolus** and **Mauritius**, makes Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire.

Constantine transforms himself into the **Pope**, and all seems well until he decides to launch the Crusades. Not only are these a catastrophe, they leave the Church bereft of funds, so the **Pope** launches the sale of indulgences to raise cash. Inevitably this provokes a backlash from the **Reformers**, and in order to maintain control the **Pope** devises the Spanish Inquisition, led by **Torquemada** and his lovely assistant **Anthea**. This leads **Jehovah** to try another tack: Puritan simplicity. We see a **Puritan Bride and Groom** on their wedding day, but clearly they are drastically out of touch with some aspects of his Creation.

Lucifer suggests the corrective of an Age of Reason, and four philosophers – **Descartes**, **Kant**, **Locke**, and **Hegel** – are called on to bring Enlightenment. This, however, does not seem to get anything practical done for humanity.

Again at **Lucifer's** suggestion, we therefore move into the Industrial Revolution, which turns out to be great for everyone except the **workers**. This is exemplified by the strike of the **Match Girls**, encouraged by **Annie Besant** and **Emmeline Pankhurst**. Things are still grim, though, as expressed in the song by music-hall performer/sex worker **Miss Dolly**. Reason reappears in the shape of **Freud**, who psychoanalyses **Doris**, who has been seeing angels. Angels, including **Gabriel**, are indeed present, but **Freud** cannot see them, and she is led off to an asylum.

The world explodes into war, and **Jehovah** realises he has ceased to be relevant. He resigns the game to **Lucifer**, who gleefully asserts his manifesto for the new order. But **Gabriel** is having none of it: he decides that the power to choose what happens next belongs to humanity, and he invites a **Girl** and a **Boy** present to show us their vision in song.