

WHAT ARE THEY DOING DOWN THERE?



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Illustrated by Dave Walker

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WHAT ARE THEY DOING DOWN THERE?

A God's-eye view of the world, or what's left of it

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CONTENTS

Introduction	7	The New(-ish) Testament (relatively speaking)	101
Wisdom of fools	11	History: the later years....	113
The world today	25	Relationships, family life and other daily pitfalls....	129
The church.....	39	The future, where applicable.....	143
Happy special occasion! Christenings, Christmas and cremations	55	Finally, some passive- aggressive motivational slogans	153
There's a 'u' and an 'i' in 'community'	69		
The Genesis of it all.....	79		

'Life is a tragedy when seen in close up, but a comedy in long shot.'

CHARLIE CHAPLIN

'In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.'

GENESIS 1:1

'See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.'

ISAIAH 65:17

(I think we're in that middle bit.)

INTRODUCTION

This book could save your life.

... If, for example, you use it to prop open a door in a room with poor air circulation, or jam it into the cogs if you're stuck on a giant conveyor belt.

That being said, this book *will* change your life.

No doubt. Even in the few short moments you've been reading this bit, which has delayed you by a few seconds, you might have been hit by a bus or something.

So, you're welcome. (You may wish to express gratitude by writing the author into your will – that's between you and your conscience.)

Better keep reading then. Who knows what else you might be avoiding out there? Because this planet is crazy. It's blessed with life, oh yes. But from that vantage point way up there, one would have to ponder...

What ARE they doing down there?

THE WORLD TODAY

If you ever try to read all of the terms and conditions, the universe will be over before you can click 'Accept'.

The busiest part of any supermarket is the reduced-to-clear section, even if there's nothing there but 500 out-of-date turnips and a yoghurt spillage.

Bank letters saying 'Your payments remain outstanding' are NOT compliments.

You know there's too much TV when there's a Channel 5 and a Channel 4+1 that show different things.

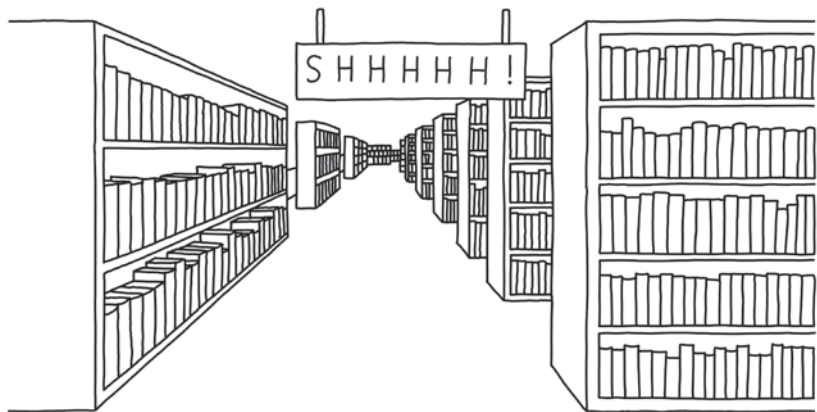
THE CHURCH

Christianity is like a nearly empty deodorant can: those who think there's nothing in it are often the ones who need it most.

If you're looking for a church, try any building with a cross on top. If you end up in a pharmacy... well, that's just a big plus.

THE GENESIS OF IT ALL

The universe wasn't just quiet; it was *really* quiet, like a library before it opens.

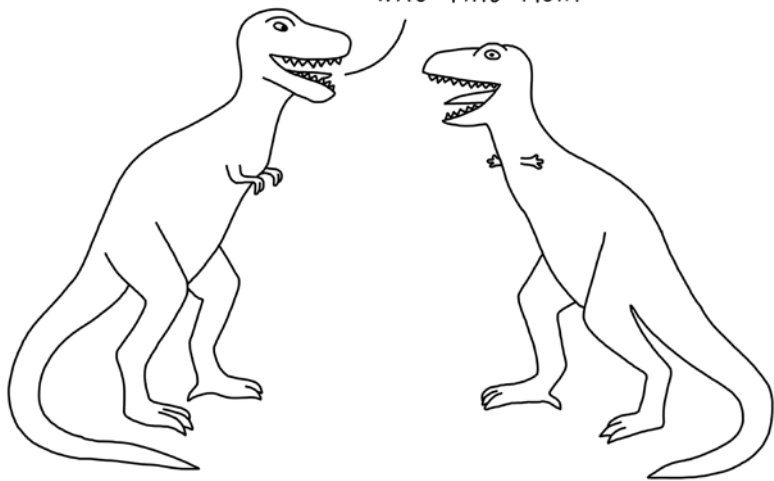


After the Big Bang, there were atoms, making lots of little bangs. Ridiculous that they kept bumping into each other – it's a big universe.

Dinosaurs aren't mentioned in the Bible. Well, there weren't palaeontologists till the 1800s, so let your ancestors off for not knowing they were standing in a giant footprint.

When dinosaurs went fishing, they had great difficulty describing how big the fish was.

SO HOW BIG
WAS THIS FISH?



HISTORY: THE LATER YEARS

The construction of Stonehenge is a mystery. So are crop circles. Coincidence? If we've learned one thing from Ikea, it's that you need to lay out your parts before construction.



Transforming lives and communities

Christian growth and understanding of the Bible

Resourcing individuals, groups and leaders in churches for their own spiritual journey and for their ministry

Church outreach in the local community

Offering two programmes that churches are embracing to great effect as they seek to engage with their local communities and transform lives



Teaching Christianity in primary schools

Working with children and teachers to explore Christianity creatively and confidently

Children's and family ministry

Working with churches and families to explore Christianity creatively and bring the Bible alive

parenting for faith

Visit brf.org.uk for more information on BRF's work

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A God's-eye view of the world, or what's left of it...

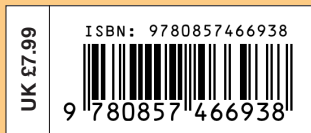
Via jokes, quips, observations and short thoughts, writer and comedian Paul Kerensa shines a light on the bits of everyday life we probably wish we'd forgotten, or been glad no one was looking at – except, well, God. It's a fun, quick read; it's dip-in-and-out-able, and with the world only getting crazier, humour's a good way to deal with it! Paul has one foot in the church and one in mainstream media, and is perfectly placed to cast his eye over the lot and give us something to think about.

'I love Paul's writing. Buy this book – or else!' Lee Mack, comedian and actor

'Laughter is medicine, and Dr Kerensa is a clinical genius at dispensing it. Buy this book. Your facial arrangement looks better when smiling, and your heart will be warmed too.'
Jeff Lucas, author, speaker and broadcaster



Paul Kerensa is the British Comedy Award-winning co-writer of BBC's *Miranda*, *Not Going Out* and *Top Gear*. He's written several books, including *So a Comedian Walks into a Church*, and performs in comedy clubs and churches, as well as at the Edinburgh and Montreal Comedy Festivals and other international events.



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