

Section 7: Religious and Moral Plays

Part 2: Plays based on Old Testament Stories

(Page 1)



Disclaimer: Lazy Bee Scripts is a publishing house, not a theological institution. Some of the plays may take approaches that do not agree with your interpretation of scripture!

The quoted run-times are a guideline only; so much depends on an individual production.

A Widow's Tale - The Story of Ruth

Author Tim Crooks

Roles Minimum Male roles = 7. Minimum Female roles = 7. Minimum total with doubling = 14. Minimum total without doubling = 14. No chorus.

Runtime Around 50 minutes.

Music None.

Style One-act Play telling the biblical story of Ruth. Simple presentation with no specific set requirements.

Outline The book of Ruth is about a woman who leaves her own country and goes to live in a land with a culture and religion which are not those which she grew up with.

Crime Wave

Author Bill Tordoff

Roles Minimum Male roles = 10. Minimum Female roles = 12. Minimum total with doubling = 22. Minimum total without doubling = 28. No chorus.

Runtime Around 40 minutes.

Music None.

Style One-act play for kids. A modern rewriting of the story of Noah. Simple sets and props.

Outline The story so far... Originally a small farmer, Noah has built up his business over the years into a large Food Products company. As the only employer in the area he used to give work to most of the people on the local council estate, then a few years ago he automated his factory and sacked his workers. Since then he and his family have run the business on their own and grown rich while the locals have been out of work... Then God intervenes...

Esther

Author Richard Cowling

Roles Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 22. Minimum total without doubling = 32. Chorus.

Runtime Around 90 minutes.

Music The producer's copy of the script comes with piano and vocal scores for 16 songs, one instrumental and 15 scene-change pieces. (A conductors score and band parts are available as an optional extra.)

Style Full-length Musical based on the biblical story of Esther. Designed as a school musical, could equally well be done by an adult or mixed company.

Outline King Xerxes of Persia marries Esther, a Jewish orphan who has been brought up by her uncle, Mordecai. Haman, the chief minister of Xerxes court insists that everyone bow down to him. When Mordecai refuses to do so, Haman flies into a rage and plans to kill Mordecai, and all the Jewish people in the kingdom. Mordecai calls upon Esther for help, but this means she must confront the mighty Xerxes...

Plus The following additional items are available (at extra cost) to go with this script: ** A 'backing track CD' with arrangements of all the songs from the show

** Soundtrack CD - vocal performances of all the songs from the show

Exodus in XX Minutes

Author John F. Glen

Roles Minimum Male roles = 5. Minimum Female roles = 3. Minimum total with doubling = 12. Minimum total without doubling = 16. Chorus.

Runtime Around 20 minutes.

Music A set of song and music suggestions are included with the Producer's Copy of the script. Lazy Bee Scripts does not supply any sheet music with this script.

Style One-act irreverent, humorous, biblical epic play for kids, simple sets.

Outline The Second Book of Moses (complete with bulrushes, plagues, red sea and commandments) told in 20 minutes - hence the title! This version of the story takes place close to Alexandria - however in this case, it is the Alexandria just south of Loch Lomond, hence the script is written in (phonetic) Scots.

Section 7: Religious and Moral Plays

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(Page 2)



Moses in the Bullrushes

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 3. Minimum Female roles = 5. Minimum total with doubling = 8. Minimum total without doubling = 24. Chorus.

Runtime Around 15 minutes.

Music None.

Style Rhyming play for kids. No set requirements and props are optional.

Outline A fun version of the Exodus story that includes all the relevant elements and allows a fair sized (and flexible) cast to present the story in a dramatized but simple fashion.

Noah's Ark

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 1. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 4. Minimum total without doubling = 6. Chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style Verse play, mainly told by narrators (with plenty of scope for a large cast to mime the actions)

Outline See the book of Genesis, chapters 6 to 9!

Noah, Yes Noah!

Author Richard Cowling

Roles Minimum Male roles = 4. Minimum Female roles = 4. Minimum total with doubling = 21. Minimum total without doubling = 40. Chorus.

Runtime Around 50 minutes.

Music The producer's copy comes with a piano and vocal score for the 19 songs and instrumentals. (There is a conductor's score and band parts as an optional extra.)

Style Lively, expressive, epic musical with some light humour. Designed to not rely heavily on props or set.

Outline Noah receives a message from God that the earth will be washed away. With his wife, his three sons and their respective wives, all of them ignoring the sneers of the ignorant townsfolk, he begins crafting an ark to bear them and the animals of the world to safety.

Samson & Delilah (Verse)

Author Bill Siviter

Roles Minimum Male roles = 0. Minimum Female roles = 0. Minimum total with doubling = 1. Minimum total without doubling = 10. No chorus.

Runtime Around 10 minutes.

Music None.

Style A narration in verse of the story of Samson. It is assumed the verses will be read or recited by one or more narrators, whilst the action is mimed.

Outline See the book of Judges, chapters 13 to 16.

Samson - The Musical

Author Sue Gordon

Roles Minimum Male roles = 11. Minimum Female roles = 8. Minimum total with doubling = 22. Minimum total without doubling = 33. Chorus.

Runtime Around 60 minutes.

Music Scores for 8 original songs are provided with the Producer's Copy of the script

Style Humorous musical version of the story of Samson and Delilah. Simple sets, basic props (give or take the lion!). There is also a version of this script as a play. (The same script, without the songs.)

Outline See the book of Judges, chapters 13 to 16 (give or take the bit where Delilah catches Samson with a jam jar, and with a cha-cha-cha for hairdressers).

Plus The following additional items are available (at extra cost) to go with this script: ** A 'backing track CD' with arrangements of all the songs from the show
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Section 7: Religious and Moral Plays

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(Page 3)



Samson - The Play

Author Sue Gordon

Roles Minimum Male roles = 11. Minimum Female roles = 8. Minimum total with doubling = 22. Minimum total without doubling = 33. No chorus.

Runtime Around 50 minutes.

Music None.

Style Humorous version of the story of Samson and Delilah. Simple sets, basic props (give or take the lion!). This version is purely a play - there is also a musical version of the same script, with 8 original songs.

Outline See the book of Judges, chapters 13 to 16 (give or take the bit where Delilah catches Samson with a jam jar).