

Angel on My Shoulder

By Doug Irving & Gary Randolph



Theme and Purpose

We live in a time of unprecedented temptation. Fortunately, the church is waking up to the threat and beginning to address it openly and honestly.

This sketch starts from the image from the old cartoons of an angel and devil fighting it out over a person's shoulders. Actually the old cartoons had it pretty much right. We are involved in constant spiritual warfare over the temptations that assail us.

This sketch illustrates several Biblical lessons of temptation. Satan lies. Satan deceives. Satan tricks us into rationalizing our actions. But also God is involved with our temptation and is ultimately triumphant.

Cast list	Angel - The comedy will probably play best if Angel is played by a woman. Dress her in a white robe. Pipe-cleaner halo is optional. Devil – Man or woman. Dress either in red or as an organized crime hit man. Should look slick. Chad - Dressed casually
Approximate Running Time	4 minutes
Scene Description	The scene will be set entirely with a couch. Chad is sitting on the couch with a laptop. Angel and Devil will initially be hiding behind the couch so they can pop up.
Prop List	Couch Laptop computer
Other Production Notes	It may be tricky getting Angel and Devil hidden behind the couch at the start of the scene. But keeping them secret until their appearance adds to the comedy. You could sneak them in during a prayer or before the lights come up on the scene. Or you could build a flat behind the couch with an opening they can sneak through. Be creative in the use of your facilities.
Related Scriptures	Matt 4:1-11, John 8:44, 1 Cor 10:13, Jude 1:9
Song Suggestions	Wise Up (Amy Grant), In The Name of The Lord, I Need Thee Every Hour

(The scene is Chad's living room. He sits on the couch with a laptop computer on his knees.)

CHAD

(clicking away)

Let me see here... www dot.

(pause)

No that isn't right. Maybe I better google it.

(Types)

Or yeah, I'll surf that one.

(pause)

Hey,

(imitating AOL)

"I've got mail." Let me just check this - nah, looks like spam again.

DEVIL

(popping up so that just his upper body can be seen behind the couch.)

Hey, hey, hey, Chad! Well lookey there what's in the ol' inbox.

(Points)

Click that puppy open there.

ANGEL

(popping up - Chad starts looking back and forth between them as they bicker)

Don't do it, Chad.

DEVIL

(To Angel, annoyed)

Aww... you again? What are you so worried about? It says right there in the subject line, "Here is the information you requested." Sounds important to me.

(to Chad)

Open it up!

ANGEL

(Close in Chad's ear)

Yeah, but look at what's starting to load in that preview pane. I know you didn't request that. Delete it now.

DEVIL

(Closer in Chad's other ear)

At least wait until it loads. What will it hurt?

(Pause)

That sure is loading slow enough.

(Pause. Looks at Angel suspiciously)

Hey! Are you doing that?!

(Angel grins, looking pleased.)

DEVIL

Hey! You stop that! It might be important.

ANGEL

Yeah, right! If that's an important e-mail then I'm Saint Peter.

DEVIL

(deadpan)

Pete, you shaved. Looks good!

(Angel rolls eyes)

Speaking of looking good...

(Turns back to laptop)

Your mail's starting to load there, Chad.

ANGEL

(Urgently)

Delete it, Chad! Quick!

CHAD

Aye caramba! I'm deleting this.

DEVIL

(As Chad clicks)

No. No. Nooooooo!

ANGEL

Yes!

(pumps arm triumphantly. Angel runs around the end of the couch, does a victory dance and sits beside Chad)

Now. Empty your recycle bin.

DEVIL

(jumping over back of couch to sit on other side of Chad).

What do you mean empty the recycle bin? What kind of wuss are you? You were strong enough to delete it. You won't undelete it later.

(subliminally in Chad's ear)

Undelete it later.

ANGEL

Shut up!

DEVIL

No, you shut up.

ANGEL

No, you shut up.

DEVIL

No, you shut up.

ANGEL

No, you shut up - eternity!

DEVIL

D'oh!

CHAD

(Exasperated)

Do you two mind already!

DEVIL

Yeah, I know. Halo-head over there is sooo annoying.

(Angel smacks Devil)

Ugh! I've been touched by an angel!

(Devil smacks Angel back. They start fighting Three Stooges style.)

CHAD

Hey!

(Angel and Devil stop fighting and look at Chad)

Could you two take this outside and let me surf the web in peace.

(Angel and Devil sit back quietly for two beats, then...)

DEVIL
Say, Chad, I know a site you ought to check out.

ANGEL
Don't listen to him.

CHAD
I don't want to listen to him. But he's always talking.
It's like I can't get rid of him.

DEVIL
That's because you don't really want to get rid of me. You
would sooo miss me.

(Devil puts his head on Chad's shoulder)

ANGEL
You know how to get rid of him, Chad.

DEVIL
Hey! No fair!

ANGEL
Say the name, Chad.

DEVIL
(Worried)
Don't say the name, Chad!

ANGEL
Say the name!

DEVIL
DON'T say the name!

ANGEL
(Faster)
Say the name!

DEVIL
(Over Angel)
Don't say the name!

ANGEL
(Run-on, quickly)
Say the name, say the name, say the NAME!

DEVIL

(hands over ears, speaking over Angel)
La-la-la-la! Not listening! Not listening!

CHAD

(Stands up, looks down at Devil)
I'm sick of you. Get outta here, Devil! In the name of
Jesus, scat! Go away, vamoose! Leave now... and never come
back!

DEVIL

(Downcast, utterly defeated. Starts to slink
off. Then turns back.)
I'll be back. You'll want me back. You'll see. Mark my
words. There'll be new spam tomorrow! Then we'll see who's
the tough guy...

CHAD AND ANGEL

GET OUT!

(Devil runs off.)

ANGEL

(High fives Chad)
Yeah, baby!
(Trash talking, strutting around a la George
Jefferson)
Uh-huh! Guess we showed you! You think you're such high
stuff. Ain't nothing but some jive devil trying to mess up
my boy with some kinda spam mail! Don't you be bringing
that stuff around here no more, unless you want some more
of what you just got!
(rejoins Chad on couch).
So, did you ever empty that recycle bin?

CHAD

Well...

(Angel smacks him.)

ANGEL

Don't make me hurt you...

CHAD

(Quickly clicks on the computer)
All deleted.

ANGEL

That's better.

Fade to black

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