

"DUELING SPEAKERS"

A Skit by Greg Beastron

Lights up:

EXT. Street corner - DAY

There is a CROWD of people milling about on the street. Two SOAPBOXES are placed on either side of the stage. As the crowd continues to mill about, one SPEAKER rises up on one of the soapboxes and gets everyone's attention.

SPEAKER #1

Everyone! Let me have your attention! I have found the answer to life! Listen to me!

The crowd congregates around the speaker.

SPEAKER #1

It is important to do good things and live your life the right way. If you are a good person then all of your problems will be solved. Being a good person will make good things happen in your life and nothing bad will ever happen to you. Being good is the answer!

Another person breaks from the crowd.

SPEAKER #2

No wait! That's not right! That's not the answer!

He gets up on the opposite soapbox.

SPEAKER #2

Being good isn't the answer. Selfishness is the answer!

The crowd quickly congregates around the other speaker.

SPEAKER #2

You need to take a high dive into Lake You! Pull yourself up by your own bootstraps and do what feels right to yourself! You are the reason for the season! Get it!

The crowd is excited.

Speaker #1 raises his voice.

SPEAKER #1

Selfishness isn't the way. Sacrifice is the answer!

The crowd moves back over to Speaker #1.

SPEAKER #1

You need to stop being so selfish and think of everyone else before yourself. Live your life in poverty. Give away all your earthly possessions. In fact, you should do so now. Make your checks payable to my favorite charity -- myself.

The crowd is excited and gets out their checkbooks.

Speaker #2 raises his voice.

SPEAKER #2

Sacrifice isn't the answer. Wealth is the way to go! Wall street! Dot coms! Well maybe not dot coms. But daytrading!

The crowd rushes over excitedly.

SPEAKER #2

Greed is good! Greed is right! It's the only way to gain all the things in life that really matter, like a "Beamer" or a home in the Hamptons or a big screen home theater system. The things that bring real meaning.

The crowd claps excitedly

Speaker #1 raises his voice.

SPEAKER #1

The tangible world is not the answer! The answer can only be found in the spiritual world!

The crowd rushes over to him.

SPEAKER #1

Crystals, shakras, meditation - this is how you can find the truth to what life is about. Close your eyes, visualize a calm mountain stream and chant your mantra. Then you will find true inner peace.

The crowd begins to meditate.

Speaker #2 raises his voice.

SPEAKER #2

Dudes! Forget that inner peace gobbledygook! Let's PARTY!

The crowd goes wild and moves quickly over to Speaker #2.

SPEAKER #2

'Ludes and brews, dudes! That's what life is about! Party on! Live life in the moment! Dance to the music! Whooo -- hooo!

The crowd parties.

SPEAKER #1

No! No! Protesting the powers that be! That's the answer!

The crowd moves to him.

SPEAKER #1

Heck no! We won't go! Up against the wall! Don't let "The Man" keep us down!

The crowd raises their fists. One PERSON from the crowd separates and stands off to the side.

SPEAKER #2

MOSH PIT!

The crowd moves to him and waves around like they're in a mosh pit.

SPEAKER #1

FOOD FIGHT!

The crowd moves to him and pretends to throw food.

SPEAKER #2

WAVE!

The crowd moves to him and does "the wave".

SPEAKER #1

DISCO!

The crowd begins to disco dance. A VISITOR approaches the PERSON. The speakers silently mime different actions and the crowd bounces back and forth between each speaker.

Visitor

Hey. Why don't you join them?

Person

Frankly, they're wearing me out. I feel like a tennis ball.

VISITOR

Why are they doing this?

PERSON

We're all just looking for answers. These guys keep telling us they've found what we're all looking for.

VISITOR

If you're looking for answers, I know where to look.

PERSON

Oh no. Not you too.

VISITOR

No, not me. The answers I've found are right in the Bible. Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father but by Me."

PERSON

Well how do I know Jesus is the right way?

VISITOR

Look, these guys change their message every time they lose their following. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever. His word does not change.

PERSON

Wow. Well I'll say one thing for Jesus -- He requires a lot less running.

VISITOR

Jesus said to take His yoke upon you because His yoke is easy and His burden is light.

PERSON

I want to hear more about Jesus.

VISITOR

What about your friends.

PERSON

I'll come back for them later. Let's go.

The crowd continues to move back and forth.

Lights out

The End