

Evil

&

THE HYPOSTATIC UNION

# EVIL & THE HYPOSTATIC UNION

By Dan DeWitt



THE FOLLOWING FICTIONAL CONVERSATION  
TAKES PLACE BETWEEN TWO SENIOR DEMONS  
(TEMPTOR & MISCHIEF) IN JERUSALEM PROPER  
CIRCA 25 A.D.



**TEMPTOR:** We need to talk.

**MISCHIEF:** You sound concerned.

**TEMPTOR:** What do you make of the hullabaloo caused by the Nazarene?

**MISCHIEF:** As our Master instructed, we have kept a close watch on him since the Noel.

**TEMPTOR:** Yes, I know. Very little about his life as a carpenter's apprentice has been worthy of reporting.

**MISCHIEF:** Then why are you alarmed?

**TEMPTOR:** Something seems to be stirring. A cold chill runs down my spine every time I'm near him.

**MISCHIEF:** Look now. He's heading down to the Jordan river.



**TEMPTOR:** He's probably looking for his cousin John the Baptizer.

**MISCHIEF:** Isn't John the one Master was enraged about?

**TEMPTOR:** Yes. He's calling men to repent and be baptized.

**MISCHIEF:** What a dreadful sight.

**TEMPTOR:** Yes, dreadful indeed. The most horrid part is that he refuses to cooperate with the religious guild.

**MISCHIEF:** Why does he want to be baptized? Interesting.

**TEMPTOR:** I suppose the Nazarene is a disciple of John's now.



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THE DEMONS ARE IMMEDIATELY  
SURROUNDED BY A DARKNESS NOT  
VISIBLE TO HUMAN EYES.

THEY SHUDDER WITH FEAR AS A  
BLINDING LIGHT RADIATES FROM A  
DOVE DESCENDING FROM HEAVEN.

A POWERFUL VOICE, TAKING THEM  
BY SURPRISE, THROWS THEM TO THE  
GROUND.

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**MISCHIEF:** WHAT IN HELL WAS THAT?

**TEMPTOR:** IT WAS NOTHING OF THE SORT. I KNOW THAT VOICE. IT'S THE VOICE OF THE ENEMY.

**MISCHIEF:** I THINK I HAVE GONE BLIND.

**TEMPTOR:** YOU SHOULD KNOW BY NOW TO COVER YOUR EYES WHENEVER THE ENEMY IS NEAR.

**MISCHIEF:** I HEARD HIS VOICE. WHY IS THE ENEMY WELL PLEASED?

**TEMPTOR:** I'M NOT SURE, BUT I HAVE THE FEELING WE ARE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE.

**MISCHIEF:** WHY? WHAT IS HAPPENING?

**TEMPTOR:** I'M AFRAID A SERIES OF EVENTS HAS BEEN SET IN MOTION. I FEAR THERE IS NO WAY TO REVERSE THE DAMAGE THAT HAS BEEN DONE.

**MISCHIEF:** BUT HE IS JUST A MAN. WHAT CAN HE DO TO US?

**TEMPTOR:** I KNOW MEN. HE IS MORE THAN A MAN. I RECOGNIZE THE SPIRIT OF THE ENEMY AT WORK.

**MISCHIEF:** WE'VE SEEN THE SPIRIT MOVE BEFORE. WE'VE BEEN PRIVY TO THE WORK OF PROPHETS AND PRIESTS.

WHY IS HE ANY DIFFERENT?

DO YOU NOT REMEMBER MOSES AND THE BURNING BUSH?

DO YOU NOT RECALL KING BELSHAZZAR AND THE HAND WRITING ON THE WALL?

**TEMPTOR:** THIS IS PROFOUNDLY DIFFERENT. IT IS AS THOUGH THE ENEMY HAS TAKEN FLESH.

**MISCHIEF:** TAKEN FLESH? YOU CANNOT BE SERIOUS. YOU HAVE SURELY GONE MAD.

**TEMPTOR:** HIDE YOURSELF. THIS IS NO TIME TO BE SEEN. THE MASTER IS ON HIS WAY. IF ANYONE CAN STOP THIS, SURELY IT IS HE.



**THE MASTER LEADS THE NAZARENE  
INTO THE WILDERNESS.**

**THE CONVERSATION RESUMES  
AFTER SEVERAL DAYS.**





**MISCHIEF:** CAN YOU SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING? I'M STILL BLINDED BY THE LIGHT OF THE DOVE.

**TEMPTOR:** YES, I CAN SEE, BUT AS THROUGH A GLASS DIMLY. I WILL TELL YOU ALL THAT I OBSERVE.

OUR MASTER IS OFFERING HIM FOOD.

**MISCHIEF:** SURELY HE WILL TAKE THE MASTER'S FOOD. THIS HAS TO WORK. HE HASN'T EATEN IN 40 DAYS. HIS FLESH IS WEAK.

**TEMPTOR:** HE'S REFUSING. HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT HIS FATHER'S FOOD.

**MISCHIEF:** YOU'VE WATCHED HIM WITHOUT SLUMBER. WHO COULD HAVE BROUGHT HIM FOOD?

**TEMPTOR:** HE SAYS HIS FOOD IS THE WORDS THAT COME FROM HIS FATHER'S MOUTH.

**MISCHIEF:** RUM THING. I'M NOT SURE I FOLLOW THE LOGIC.



**TEMPTOR:** NOW, THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!

**MISCHIEF:** WHAT? WHAT? DO TELL!

**TEMPTOR:** THE MASTER IS TELLING HIM TO THROW HIMSELF DOWN FROM THE TEMPLE.

**MISCHIEF:** (WITH A SOUND OF RELIEF) FINALLY, ALL SEEMS TO BE RETURNING TO NORMAL.

I DO HOPE HE JUMPS.

(WITH A SLY GRIN) ALTHOUGH, I MUST ADMIT THAT THIS SEEMS TO BE A RATHER OBVIOUS STRATEGY. I DOUBT HE WILL FALL FOR IT.

**TEMPTOR:** I DON'T BELIEVE MY EYES. NOW THE MASTER IS OFFERING HIM AUTHORITY AND POWER.

**MISCHIEF:** HAS OUR MASTER GONE MAD? HE WANTS ALL OF THE GLORY FOR HIMSELF. WHY WOULD HE OFFER IT TO ANOTHER?

**TEMPTOR:** EVEN I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS EXCHANGE. SOMETHING MYSTERIOUS IS AT PLAY.

**MISCHIEF:** MYSTERIOUS INDEED.



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**THE CONVERSATION RESUMES  
A COUPLE OF YEARS LATER IN  
THE VICINITY OF CAESAREA  
PHILIPPI.**  
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**TEMPTOR:** HELLO OLE' CHAP. IT HAS BEEN AWHILE.  
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO?

**MISCHIEF:** I GUESS MY NAME PRETTY MUCH ANSWERS YOUR QUESTION. (BOTH LAUGHING)

**TEMPTOR:** LET'S SEE WHAT THE NAZARENE IS BUSY DOING TODAY.

**MISCHIEF:** THE MASTER IS GROWING IN HIS CONCERN ABOUT THIS ONE.

**TEMPTOR:** YES, BUT OUR COVERT MISSION TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE AWAY FROM HIM SEEMS TO BE GAINING GROUND.

**MISCHIEF:** (LAUGHING) YES. THE CROWDS ARE TURNING INDEED. HE IS A DEFEATED FOE.

**TEMPTOR:** TEMPER YOUR HUBRIS, MISCHIEF. OUR WORK IS FAR FROM DONE, THOUGH THE MASTER IS PLEASED WITH OUR PROGRESS.

**MISCHIEF:** WHY SUCH CAUTION? NOTHING CAN PREVAIL AGAINST US!

**TEMPTOR:** LOOK. THERE'S THAT IMPULSIVE FISHERMAN. HE SHOWS REAL PROMISE. I THINK HE MAY BE OF FUTURE USE.

**MISCHIEF:** INDEED. IF WE COULD ONLY GET HIM TO CAST IN HIS LOT WITH JUDAS.

**TEMPTOR:** YES. I DO HOPE HE IS WILLING TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT SIDE WHEN HIS TIME COMES.



**MISCHIEF:** (WITH DISGUST) YES, THAT NAZARENE WILL ONE DAY PAY FOR HIS TREASON.

**TEMPTOR:** SHHH... THEY'RE STARTING TO TALK. LET'S LISTEN IN.

**MISCHIEF:** THIS SHOULD BE GOOD. (SNICKERING)

**TEMPTOR:** WHY WOULD HE ASK HIS DISCIPLES WHO THEY BELIEVE THAT HE IS? WHAT AN ODD LINE OF INQUIRY. OUR MASTER IS MUCH MORE DIRECT WITH US.

**MISCHIEF:** IT LOOKS LIKE PETER IS GOING TO BE THE FIRST TO ANSWER. YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT WILL COME OUT OF HIS MOUTH!

**TEMPTOR:** YES. VERY GOOD. PETER IS AFFIRMING OUR STRATEGY.

**MISCHIEF:** HOW SO?

**TEMPTOR:** HE SAYS OTHERS BELIEVE THE NAZARENE IS A PROPHET. WE'VE DEALT WITH PROPHETS BEFORE. WE CAN HANDLE PROPHETS.

**MISCHIEF:** NOW YOU HAVE MY INTEREST. WE'VE TAKEN CARE OF OUR SHARE OF PROPHETS IN THE PAST. THIS IS GOING TO BE FUN.

**TEMPTOR:** SHHHH...

**MISCHIEF:** WHAT NOW?

**TEMPTOR:** UGH. THIS NAZARENE IS RELENTLESS. STILL HE INSISTS FOR A MORE SPECIFIC ANSWER. "WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?"

**MISCHIEF:** CAN HE NOT LEAVE WELL ENOUGH ALONE?

**TEMPTOR:** HOPEFULLY WE CAN TRUST PETER TO COME THROUGH FOR US ONE MORE TIME.



**THE SOUND OF A HEAVY IRON GATE  
LOCKING SHUT SILENCES THE DEMONS.**

**A CRACKLING NOISE REVERBERATES  
THROUGHOUT THE DARKNESS THAT  
HAS ONCE AGAIN FALLEN UPON THEM.**





**MISCHIEF:** WHAT IN HELL?

**TEMPTOR:** AGAIN, IT IS NOTHING OF THAT SORT.  
(EXASPERATED) PETER CONFESSED THAT THE NAZ-  
ARENE IS THE CHOSEN ONE OF GOD, THE MESSIAH.

**MISCHIEF:** I AM FEARFUL. WHY AM I FEARFUL?

**TEMPTOR:** I KNEW SOMETHING WAS DIFFERENT.

**MISCHIEF:** YOU MEAN THAT THE ENEMY HAS  
TAKEN FLESH?

**TEMPTOR:** YES. THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING.

**MISCHIEF:** EVERYTHING?

**TEMPTOR:** YES, EVERYTHING.

**MISCHIEF:** (TREMBLING) I FEAR THAT THIS IS THE  
BEGINNING OF THE END.

**TEMPTOR:** (SADLY) NO, MISCHIEF. I FEAR THIS IS  
ONLY THE END OF THE BEGINNING.



AND THE **WORD BECAME FLESH**, AND DWELT  
 AMONG US, AND WE SAW HIS GLORY, GLORY AS  
 OF THE ONLY BEGOTTEN FROM THE FATHER, *full  
 of grace and truth*. JOHN TESTIFIED ABOUT HIM  
 AND CRIED OUT, SAYING, "THIS WAS HE OF WHOM  
 I SAID, 'HE WHO COMES AFTER ME HAS A HIGHER  
 RANK THAN I, FOR HE EXISTED BEFORE ME.'"  
 FOR OF HIS FULLNESS WE HAVE ALL RECEIVED,  
 AND *grace upon grace*. FOR THE LAW WAS GIVEN  
 THROUGH MOSES; GRACE AND TRUTH WERE  
 REALIZED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. NO ONE HAS  
 SEEN GOD AT ANY TIME; THE ONLY BEGOTTEN  
 GOD WHO IS IN THE BOSOM OF THE FATHER,  
**HE HAS EXPLAINED HIM.**

*-The Apostle John*

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