**A HISTORY LESSON AT THE GATES OF HEAVEN**

CHARACTERS:

 GOD (CLUELESS)

 ABE LINCOLN (FRIENDLY)

GOD:

 Today is very warm. But I like it. Not too busy. Just right.

[Abe Lincoln walks in. Looks around.]

GOD:

 Hello there.

LINCOLN:

 Why, hello. Is this the gate of Heaven?

GOD:

 Yes, sir. Come right along. Where are you from?

LINCOLN:

 Oh, I’m from the U.S., and we remain united. I’m sorry, though, for the war,

 but the Union needed to be kept together.

GOD:

 Oh, yes. The war. Terrible, terrible.

LINCOLN:

 Yes. But by keeping our country together, perhaps we’ll have a chance at

 getting rid of the European bankers. They hate our Greenback paper money,

 cause we issue it direct from the Treasury, without any debt to anyone.

GOD:

 Greenbacks? No debt?

LINCOLN:

 Well, the war began and the government had no money.

GOD:

 Wait. Whoa. I’m sure I didn’t plan it this way.

LINCOLN:

 Oh, it’s not your fault God. The damn private bankers have confused

 Americans with their bankmoney. Lots of terrible consequences for the

 working Americans.

GOD:

 When did this all start in the U.S.?

LINCOLN:

 You know, the 13 colonies refused to have private banks.

 The colonies created their own paper money from their legislatures.

 It circulated, without any debt, and created prosperity.

GOD:

 Good. Good.

LINCOLN:

 But the British bankers didn’t like that. No profit for them.

 The Bank of England had been created in 1694,

 and had gotten the right and privilege to create its own private banknotes

 and loan them to the public, make interest on them, and decide who

 got this money.

GOD:

 Dear, dear. Why don’t I know about this indecent system? These usurers!

LINCOLN:

 The bankers keep their system secret. They tell people they are loaning

 out money they already have in the bank, and hide that they create

 the money they give to borrowers.

GOD:

 And your Greenbacks?

LINCOLN:

 Not private banknotes. Public money. You see, after our Revolution, people

 were worn out and bankers took advantage of the situation. Even before

 the end of war of independence, the first American bank had been

 chartered by a state. More and more were chartered.

GOD:

 And now?

LINCOLN:

 Most money in our economy is bankmoney. Either banknotes

 or checking account money in a bank. All created by banks when they

 make a loan agreement with a borrower.

GOD:

 But you got the Congress to create public Greenback paper notes?

 How?

LINCOLN:

 Well, we were in desperate straights when the Civil War began.

 I went to New York to see if the bankers would give the North

 some loan of gold.

GOD:

 Well?

LINCOLN:

 They said yes, but the interest was outrageous. 24 to 36 percent!

GOD:

 What! That’s pur usury. Why…..!!!!!

LINCOLN:

 Back in Washington, my friend Mr. Carey said, “Abe, your Congress

 has the power to create public Greenbacks and spend them into the

 economy for the soldiers.

GOD:

 Yes?

LINCOLN:

 You should have seen those bankers having apoplexy!

 Ha, ha.

GOD:

 Excellent!

LINCOLN:

 We got the Greenback. And it circulates today as a reminder

 to all the working people that money can be public and work for

 everyone, not just give profit to the private banks.

GOD:

 Well, Abe, I want to thank you and Mr. Carey and all the Americans

 that helped you. And you did become President, I believe?

LINCOLN:

 Yes, sir. But I died from a bullet. That’s why I’m here.

GOD:

 A bullet? Someone shot and killed you!

LINCOLN:

 Well, God, you see the bankers couldn’t let me live. I was aiming

 to have a totally public money system after the war.

GOD:

 Oh, dear. I’m afraid I don’t understand accounting and money. But I do

 know that interest on bankmoney is usury, and concentrates

 wealth in the hands of financiers.

LINCOLN:

 You got it God. Exactly right. The bankers want everybody in debt to

 them.

GOD:

 How about our farmers? They create most of our wealth from the land.

LINCOLN:

 Oh, the poor farmer. He’s dependent on bank loans. The bankers

 are planning free trade in farm products down the road.

 This will undercut the farmers and they’ll go bankrupt.

 The banks will get the farms and turn them into corporations.

GOD:

 Outrageous! Evil evil evil. Thank you Lincoln for this lesson in

 history and for being a great and good man.

LINCOLN:

 Thank you, God, for giving us a beautiful world that can give

 everyone a good life, but we need to get rid of that evil bankmoney!

THE END