



Dave & Putter

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WORLD CULT EVANGELISM

Reaching The Unreached At Your Doorstep And Around The World

Home Church:
Cross Roads Baptist Church
1391 Braselton Hwy
Lawrenceville, GA 30043



Macedonia World Baptist Missions, Inc.
P.O. Box 519
Braselton, GA 30517
706-654-2818

Putter's E-mail Address: missputter@bellsouth.net

Dave's E-mail Address: bwce@bellsouth.net

CULTS Home Page: <http://www.ftfacts.com>

JUST FOR JWS: <http://www.jwinfo.net>

BWCE Home Page: <http://www.bwce.org>

WHAT WAS IN THE GARDEN CUP?

Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour (John 12:27).

When the Lord Jesus Christ, the Sinless Lamb of God, was in the Garden of Gethsemane, He prayed three times and asked His Father to "take away this cup from me." So, what was in the cup? Some have suggested, without reference to any verse in context, that Jesus, in a moment of human weakness, was asking the Father if there was another way other than the cross. This would mean that Jesus' prayer was a self-serving and self-centered attempt to abort His mission. The idea of a "moment of human weakness" also implies that His human nature was like ours rather than impeccable. The lack of hermeneutical soundness is a prevalent sign of preaching that has gone awry. Ps 11:3 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do? The answer is: rebuild them by relearning the rules of hermeneutics.

A look at the Lord's prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane from the synoptic gospels is the best way to focus on the context. Before we do that, let's take a look at what was **not** in the cup. These verses in John make it clear that Jesus was not referring to Calvary in His garden prayer, for He knew His time to be crucified was very near.

John 12:23&27; 23 *And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. 27 Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.*

The context of the synoptic gospels will show that death was in the cup, but it was not His death at Calvary; rather, it was the immediate threat of His death in the Garden that prompted Him to pray three times saying, "O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

Matt 26:37-39 *And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. 38 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.* At this point He was about to physically die.

Mark 14:33-36 *And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy; 34 And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch. 35 And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. 36 And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; takeaway this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.*

Luke 22:41-45 *And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 42 Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done. 43 And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. 44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. 45 And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow.*

Our Lord's prayer was answered within moments when the angel came to strengthen Him and the cup of death, imminent death in the Garden was soon removed. The Lord's sorrow and agony in the Garden was, in part, a fulfilling of the prophecies in Isa 53. Much of the mental suffering mentioned in Isaiah's prophecy, Christ experienced in the Garden of Gethsemane before His physical sufferings began.

It is my prayer that the Lord would help each of us to preach the text concerning Christ's passion with hermeneutical soundness and give Him the glory that He truly is worthy to receive. May we never again hear someone preaching on Easter Sunday that Christ, in a moment of human weakness, was uncertain about His willingness to become our sacrifice. Never again, no; a 1000 times no!

Heb 12:2 *Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

O, what a Saviour, what a victory, and what a reason to celebrate Easter, resurrection day, and spread the gospel.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE FIELD

NEVER GIVE UP HOPE

Kent Prain had been called to be an evangelist early in his life and has served His Lord faithfully for “many, many” years. When he has a meeting and is not preaching in the pulpit, he is preaching door-to-door. Whenever he makes a connection with a JW, he sends me their contact info so I can follow up on the visit. Around August of 2012, a JW couple answered the door and agreed to have him and his friend, Dave Weeks, return for an evening Bible study. Their names are Ian and Carole Many times these types of scheduled meetings never take place for a number of different reasons, but this one, praise the Lord, did. We sat around a large, rectangular dining room table loaded with Watchtower (WT) books and other materials.

Before the meeting Kent set the parameters by requesting that we stick basically to one subject: who is Jesus Christ, to which they agreed without any hesitation. Great start!

Kent had a paper on the trinity which clearly proved the deity of Christ, and I had the texts from Zechariah proving Jesus is Jehovah.

We started the discussion by each of us giving our testimonies. Ian had a Methodist background and had served in the military. He had been a JW for about 13 years as a result of his marriage. His wife Carole (a British lady) was Church of England and had been a JW for many years. After the introductions we began to show from Scripture that the WT Jesus was not the Jesus of the Bible. As always, their problem was the WT's teaching for Colossians 1: 15-17 that Jesus was a created being. Although we showed them clearly that “first born” did not mean Jesus was created, they refused to accept it. Kent went by their house again in Jan and Ian took *CHECKMATE*. This is a positive indication that our efforts were not in vain and the door may still be open. Pray with us for another opportunity to meet with them.

SHARRING MY BURDEN

Twenty years ago when we began introducing cult evangelism to our churches, there were many who did not believe that JWs could be saved. We have come a long way since then, but the surface has not even been scratched. There is so much potential and power in the church that could be harnessed. A person becomes powerful and dangerous to the enemy when he knows how to bear his armor. Those who have been equipped to do the work of the ministry will become soldiers of the cross. They will have learned to “put on the whole armor of God” and march into battle with victory. Part of my calling, as a cult evangelist, is to equip folks who have a desire to reach JWs with the gospel and see them saved. Let me say that I have enjoyed doing that as much as leading a JW to Christ, for to reproduce another person with the skills the Lord has given me will insure that cult evangelism will continue and the more people who have these skills the more JWs will be reached, by the Good Lord's help and grace.

The Lord has enabled us now with *CHECKMATE for Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses*, to put something in the hands of God's people that will truly help them see JWs come under conviction and realize they are lost and without hope. Once they know that, it is the beginning of the way out of their bondage. If they are not “checkmated,” they will continue playing the game without any fear of eternal hell. I am looking for volunteers who want to become soldiers of the cross and learn to bear their armor. Sign up now!

- Home Address -

2821 Crabapple Lane • Dacula, GA 30019-1047 • Tel. 770-614-6618

For I determined not to know any thing among you save Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 1 Cor 2:2

“PUTTER'S PEN”

Heb. 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. (KJV)

I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee; what comforting words these are. Have you experienced them? The Weeks family sure has. The other evening during our Spring revival a couple sang the song Through It All. As I listened to the words, my life passed through my mind's eye. What a time I had reviewing all the times that the Lord was with us throughout our life.

He was there...through it all...the good, the bad and the ugly. During the times of rejoicing and the times of sadness, He was with us through it all. During the times of togetherness, the times of loneliness, He was there through it all. When we were abasing and when we were abounding, you got it...He was there through it all and through it all I learned to trust in Him. Hallelujah what a Savior! Until next time, Jehovah-jireh, "Putter"

*I thank God for the mountains,
and I thank Him for the valleys,
I thank Him for the storms He
brought me through. For if I'd
never had a problem, I wouldn't
know God could solve them, I'd
never know what faith in God
could do.*

Chorus

*Through it all, through it all,
I've learned to trust in Jesus,
I've learned to trust in God,
through it all, through it all. I've
learned to depend upon His Word.*

Dave & Putter
Isa. 41:10