

# WORLD CULT EVANGELISM

Reaching The Unreached At Your Doorstep And Around The World

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March 2018



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## 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; take away 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. May the sweet Lord Jesus bless you all richly on His day.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE FIELD

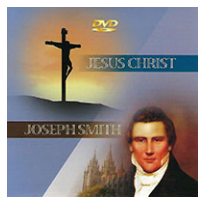
## WE NEED YOUR HELP

If any of you have contact info for JW's or Mormons, please share your story and contact information with us. We are always praying for new people who have a true interest in the truth. The Lord knows where each one of them lives. Please help us to find them.

Last week the Lord led us to a lady whose brother married a Mormon. She has read the *Checkmate* book, but like most people, that is not enough to engage a well-studied Mormon or JW. That's like reading your car owner's manual and thinking that you are ready to work on the engine. It takes more than knowing where to move the chess pieces to checkmate a pro. Any person who's in a cult must see the conflict between what God is saying in His Word and what the cult leaders are saying and accept God's Word as the authority. If they don't, you have nothing but a religious debate and two different opinions.

To establish a line of authority, one must accept the rules that maintain that authority. You might start by asking a Mormon or JW friend these three questions: "Do you consider yourself to be a honest person? Do you believe that the Bible is your absolute authority for faith and life? Do you believe that a truth in the Bible will never contradict itself?"

My thoughts here are that by explaining to you some of these steps in trying to better prepare this lady to help her brother, it also may help some of you who may have a similar situation.



When I see her again tomorrow night, this video will be her next step in better understanding some of what Mormons really believe about Jesus. Please pray with me that the Lord will prepare her brother's heart and in time I'll be able to talk with him. May the Lord help us to reach a soul!

## EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

The John 1:3 Checkmate

To begin your conversation with a JW, you might ask these questions:

1. Do you consider yourself to be a honest person?

2. Do you believe that the Bible is your absolute authority for faith and life?

3. Do you believe that a truth in the Bible will never contradict itself?

Then make this statement: Well, if what you just said is true, then I don't understand how you, as a JW, could have any hope. They might reply by saying, "What do you mean?" Then you ask them to read John 1:3. Let's take a look:

John 1:3 (NWT) **All things** [this would include Michael the Archangel] came into existence through him, and **apart from him** [Jesus Christ] **not even one thing** came into existence.

Doesn't John 1:3 say that Jesus created all things and not even one thing came into existence without Him, and wouldn't that include Michael the Archangel? If you don't believe that Jesus created ALL THINGS, how could you have any hope? Ask them to read Matt 10:33! What JW's do not understand is that Jesus is Jehovah. Isa 44:24 *Thus saith the LORD [Jehovah/Yahweh], thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself.* See also Zech 11:12-13; 12:10; 14:3-4. These verses prove that Jesus is **I AM THAT I AM, Yahweh** of Exodus 3:14, the LORD who is the Creator of all things.

## 'PUTTER'S PEN' WRITES AGAIN

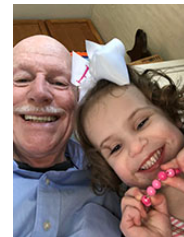
*And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise? (Matt 21:16)*

Out of the mouth of babes. Oh, the stories I could tell of the times my little ones said something that was not just funny, but rather a spiritual truth. Just the other day, Angie told us what our great grandbaby Ella said to her. Ella will be three this month, and just like her mother, has a vocabulary that astounds this Mamaw, not to mention, she talks 24/7. Angie had been with her for several hours on Saturday and it came time for her to go home. Ella wanted her to stay longer (don't they always) when Angie told her she had to go home and take care of Papa (Ray). Ella looked at Angie and replied, "Nonni, Jesus can take better care of Papa than you can!" (I think that got her a few more minutes with Nonni.) Yes, out of the mouth of babes comes some profound statements.

Of course, there was the time that Mary Beth, when she was about Ella's age, told me that if I ironed my face, it might get the wrinkles out!

Until next time, Jehovah-jireh, "Putter"

*Dave & Putter*  
Isa. 41:10



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