

An Evening Conversation on Jesus and Paul

with



James D.G. Dunn

and

N.T. Wright



Edited by Mark M. Mattison

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Editor's Preface

by Mark M. Mattison
Editor, *The Paul Page*

What follows is an edited transcript of a two-part dialogue recorded on October 25, 2004, in Durham, England. It is both a privilege and a pleasure to be able to present this dialogue in a permanent form in this e-book.

In editing the transcript for the printed page, I've taken many steps to preserve the feel of the original, spoken dialogue. My editing involved breaking up larger chunks of text into shorter sentences, eliminating some false starts and other verbal peculiarities, and eliminating or rearranging the order of words in order to accommodate the written format. I worked with the words that were already there, avoiding introduction of new words if at all possible, so as to keep my editorial clarifications to a minimum. The reader may judge how faithful I've been to the original dialogue by comparing this text to the original recordings, which are available as MP3 files at the following URL:

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/kevin.bywater/2004archive.htm>

Where the speakers cited Scripture from memory, I modified the quotations to match either the NASB or the NRSV, depending on which was closer to the speaker's rendition.

Both James D.G. Dunn and N.T. Wright reviewed the manuscript to make additional corrections and revisions. In some cases, the revisions enlarged upon or clarified the intent of the original dialogue. The result is a better representation of the important conversation that took place between two of the top New Testament scholars in the world that evening in Durham. Nevertheless, it should be emphasized that any typos or errors in the manuscript – or in editorial judgment, for that matter – are entirely my own responsibility.

Finally, words of thanks should be extended both to Kevin Bywater, for recording the lectures and making them available on the Durham site; and to Kevin Bush, webmaster of *The N.T. Wright Page*, for urging me to transcribe and edit the entire *Conversation*, and for his valuable input along the way. Without his encouragement, this manuscript would never have been completed.