

## **Mark 12:18 27**

<sup>18</sup> Then *some* Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him; and they asked Him, saying: <sup>19</sup> "Teacher, Moses wrote to us that if a man's brother dies, and leaves *his* wife behind, and leaves no children, his brother should take his wife and raise up offspring for his brother. <sup>20</sup> Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife; and dying, he left no offspring. <sup>21</sup> And the second took her, and he died; nor did he leave any offspring. And the third likewise. <sup>22</sup> So the seven had her and left no offspring. Last of all the woman died also. <sup>23</sup> Therefore, in the resurrection, when they rise, whose wife will she be? For all seven had her as wife."

<sup>24</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, "Are you not therefore mistaken, because you do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God? <sup>25</sup> For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. <sup>26</sup> But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the *burning bush passage*, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? <sup>27</sup> He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living. You are therefore greatly mistaken."

## **A question about the resurrection**

1. Jesus is in the Temple teaching, preaching & healing
  - a. Who gave you this authority?
  - b. Should we pay taxes?
  
2. Another group called The Sadducees take a shot at our Lord
  - a. These were the aristocratic leaders in the Temple
    - i. They were few in number but very powerful
    - ii. They controlled the priesthood
      1. The high priest
      2. 24 chief priests
      3. 70 elders of Sanhedrin
    - iii. They had a good relationship with Rome

- iv. They controlled the buying and selling in the temple
    - 1. So they were angry with the temple cleansing
  - v. They only believed in the Torah
  - vi. They denied miracles, angels & the resurrection
3. They appeal to Jesus by saying "Teacher" (master)
    - a. Using flattery to get Jesus to let down His guard
  4. They present Him with a problem from the scriptures knowing Jesus loves the Word of God
    - a. Moses said, if a man marries a woman and has no children...**Deut 25:5-6**
    - b. They formulated a puzzle for Him to solve hoping to embarrass Jesus
      - i. **In the resurrection, who's wife will she be?**
    - c. Their point was to prove the absurdity of the resurrection
  5. They don't realize that they are fulfilling prophecy
    - a. They're carefully inspecting the lamb before Passover
    - b. They are scrutinizing every detail and He is absolutely perfect
  6. Instead of ridiculing them about not believing in the resurrection
    - a. Jesus leads them back to God's Word and God's plan
    - b. Just as He did with the chief priests & scribes (**authority**)
    - c. Just as He did with the Herodians & Pharisees (**taxes**)
    - d. His heart is to bring truth to any and all who want to hear it
      - i. He used every opportunity to instruct people in God's way
      - ii. That should help us understand the heart of God better
        - 1. He is not angry waiting to strike

2. He's using every opportunity to bring us back to Himself with Truth and Grace

7. Jesus tells them they are mistaken because they did not know

**a. The scriptures**

**b. The power of God**

i. They didn't know the scriptures although they memorized every word

**1. They chose to only acknowledge the Torah**

a. That is a dangerous thing when people choose which parts of the bible to believe

b. We are to take it all in because it's truth

c. **2 Tim 3:16** All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

d. **Psalm 119:160** The entirety of Your Word *is* truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments *endures* forever.

e. We're to read all of it & believe it all

**2. They learned the letters of the law and missed the meaning**

a. They turned the scriptures into meaningless ceremony

i. God wants us to pray, we'll pray

ii. God wants us to fast, we'll fast

iii. God wants offerings, we'll bring them

1. They performed the role but it didn't change their life

b. God warns them in Isaiah 1:13

c. Do not bring any more meaningless offerings; I consider your incense detestable! You

observe new moon festivals, Sabbaths, and convocations, but I cannot tolerate sin-stained celebrations!

- d. Your relationship with God is supposed to transform you into His image
  - i. If I'm not changing, something is wrong
  - ii. If I'm not growing in grace, in knowledge, in character, then I don't have the real thing
- e. The letter kills, but the spirit gives life (2 Cor 3:6)

8. **It's important to be students of scripture**

- a. **2 Tim 2:15** Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
- b. **Psalm 119:9** How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word.

**i. They were ignorant of the power of God**

9. **They rejected the idea of miracles**

- 1. God who placed the stars in their place
- 2. Who created man & breathed into him
- 3. Who plagued the Egyptians and saved the Israelites
- 4. Who fed them with manna and water from the rock
- 5. Gave them a pillar of fire by night...

- a. It may be because that's what the elite group believes
- b. If you want to be "in", that's what you believe
- c. Inability to think for yourself and see truth is called a cult.

## 10. They only lived by their senses

### i. It's impossible to live your Christian life with the 5 senses & without faith

ii. Faith is believing what the senses cannot attain

1. I think many times, I can also live by my senses  
Relying on what I see and feel
  - a. forgetting the element of faith

**b.** Having a good foundation in the scriptures is critical in teaching us to live by faith

- i. That's why we go through the gospels
  1. To learn God's truth
  2. To be reminded
  3. To build faith

## 11. Vs. 25 For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven

**a.** Your new nature in heaven will be glorified

- i. No more pain
- ii. No more sickness
- iii. No more separation
- iv. No more suffering or death

**b.** We don't know what that looks like but it will be glorious like the angels in heaven

**c.** Vs. 26 But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the *burning bush passage*, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I *am* the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? <sup>27</sup> He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living. You are therefore greatly mistaken."

**d.** Jesus uses Exodus to prove the resurrection

**e.** **I AM** the God of Abraham...

- i. **I AM** the God of the living, not the dead

ii. Abraham is more alive now than ever

iii. Isaac is more alive now...

iv. He's using what they believe to help them realize

1. The human soul will live forever

2. Please consider your life today because it has consequences

3. You will live forever someplace

**f.** The word mistaken here suggests that they are "leading themselves astray"

i. They chose to believe what was convenient for them

**g.** The truth stood right in front of them and they ended up in hell

**h.** Many hear the truth weekly and will end up in a dark place

12. To the believer, rejoice, this world is not our home

**a.** There is a city built by God for us

13. To those not sure, today is the day of salvation

i. Let's acknowledge the truth together