



Matthew 22:23-33

- Matt. 22:23 The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him and asked Him,
- Matt. 22:24 saying: “Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring for his brother.
- Matt. 22:25 Now there were with us seven brothers. The first died after he had married, and having no offspring, left his wife to his brother.
- Matt. 22:26 Likewise the second also, and the third, even to the seventh.
- Matt. 22:27 Last of all the woman died also.
- Matt. 22:28 Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her.”
- Matt. 22:29 Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.
- Matt. 22:30 For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.
- Matt. 22:31 But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying,
- Matt. 22:32 “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’ ? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.”
- Matt. 22:33 And when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching.

In our last study we found the **Pharisees** and the **Herodians** working together to try and trap Jesus in His words regarding our duty to God and Man. This week the **Sadducees** take their best shot at Jesus by trying to trap Him with a theological conundrum.

Who were the **Sadducees**? They were the religious liberals of the 1st Century. They believed only in the first 5 books of the Old Testament (those penned by Moses) and rejected the rest. They did not believe in angels, the spirit realm, the resurrection, a final judgment, and eternal life.

In short they did not believe in life after death. They believed in only what they could experience with their own five senses so they rejected anything supernatural.

One final observation: the **Sadducees** believed that they were smarter than everyone else—including Jesus. Thus, their condescending attitude as expressed in their silly question.

Observations & Discussion

1. The Sadducees question to Jesus was based on the “levirate” marriage law found in Deut. 25:5-6. Read that scripture & describe the purpose for which that law was given. Also, which book in the Bible prominently features a levirate marriage?
2. Based on the Sadducees question & Jesus’ response (vs. 28-29) what can you tell about the Sadducees view of God? What is the root problem with their theology?
3. Read 2Timothy 3:5. How does the denial of the supernatural lead to wrong thinking about God & eternity? What are the consequences of wrong thinking about God & eternity?
4. Jesus’ answer in vs. 30 reveals some startling information about our life after the resurrection! Why do you think there won’t be marriage in Heaven? How do you feel about that?
5. What verse did Jesus quote in vs. 32 to prove that the dead will be raised? Why is that particular verse significant in the dismantling of the Sadducees argument?
6. What other section of the Bible proves that Abraham and the other saints are still alive in Heaven?
7. Extra credit: How does Jesus’ answer in vs. 30 destroy the doctrine of the Mormon Church?