
ARE YOU NOT IN ERROR BECAUSE YOU DO NOT KNOW?

SERIES: ANSWERING JESUS' QUESTION

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Scripture: **Mark 12:18-27**

Purpose: To urge us to know God, His power and His word.

Introduction:

1. The Sadducees make up a ridiculous story—(provide background of brother and sister in law marrying.)
2. Levirate Marriage was to extend the family name and maintain property rights.
3. The problem posed by the Sadducees made belief in the resurrection absurd.
4. The Sadducees, while not believing in the resurrection, talk about the resurrection as though they do.
5. Jesus refused to be drawn into a debate about absurd speculation.
6. Jesus went to the heart of the issue—their lack of knowledge about scripture.

I. Knowledge of scripture

- A. Exodus 3:6, “I am the God of (the Patriarchs)”
 1. This Scripture expresses the present tense not the past tense.
 2. Jesus makes the point that God is at this moment the God of these men of faith.
 3. Jesus was not saying, “When Abraham used to live on this earth, God was his God.”
 4. Jesus’ logic was the living God is God of those who live, not those who are dead.

- B. Jesus could have used other verses that were clearer in intent, but the Sadducees did not accept the entire Bible as inspired—only the Pentateuch.
1. Job 19:25, “I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.”
 2. Isa. 26:19, “But your dead men shall live, their bodies will rise. You, who dwell in the dust, wake up and shout for joy. Your dew is like the dew of the morning; the earth will give birth to her dead.”
 3. Daniel 12:2, “Many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.”
- C. Jesus made His next argument; the Sadducees did not know God’s power.

II. Knowledge of His power

- A. God can place new life in the dead.
1. God first created humans from nothing—to provide new life is not beyond His ability.
 2. God grants new life--Those who know God and His power find belief in miracles probable.
 3. The living God is the God of the living.
 4. Jesus argued for the resurrection based on the character of God who is alive.
- B. God works His miracles in the inward and outward aspects of life.
1. Salvation;
 2. Sanctification;
 3. Providential grace
- # Ryan turned his car over going over 70 mph. After getting out of a demolished car with his own body intact, he gave his wayward heart to God. God’s providential grace became for him prevenient grace.

III. Jesus handles the dilemma two ways:

- A. After the resurrection the principles of physical life no longer apply.
 - 1. Marrying and being married are no longer a factor.
 - 2. The life to come bears little resemblance to this life.
- B. The resurrection is a fact based on the Old Testament teaching.
 - 1. The resurrection is attested by a quote from God (Ex. 3:6).
 - 2. God's power makes the resurrection possible.

IV. Jesus makes clear that we are to know the Lord God . . .

- A. Through the Scriptures;
- B. By His power;
- C. By His life-giving deeds

Conclusion:

- 1. Are you not in error because you do not know the Scriptures?
- 2. Are you not in error because you do not know the power of God?
- 3. Are you not in error because you do not know God?
- 4. These penetrating questions are offered by Jesus to spur us to know God better.