

A Question of Resurrection

Luke 20:27-40

Theme: The resurrection of the dead is real and affirmed in the Old Testament and an entry into a new sphere of existence.

1) The Sadducean Dilemma (vv.27-33)

Sadducees:

- A) A _____ for Seven Brothers
 - Levirate _____
 - An _____ hypothetical situation

2) Jesus' Defense of Resurrection (vv. 34-36)

- A) A _____ assumption:
- B) The Immortality of the _____
- C) The God of the _____

3) Knowing the Scriptures and the Power of God (Matthew 22:29)

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Small Group Questions

REFLECT

1. Read Deuteronomy 25: 5-10. Notice in the column the passage is entitled Laws concerning Levirate marriage. “Levirate” is from the Latin word for “brother” or “husband’s brother”. Explain in your own words what the law was designed to do.
2. What happened to a brother who refused to take his dead brother’s wife? Why was it the source of such public shame?
3. What were the Sadducees using the Levirate marriage law for in their challenge to Jesus? How was the hypothetical situation really ridiculous?
4. What was the faulty assumption behind the question that Jesus corrects them on in v.34&35?
5. What “age or era” is Jesus referring to in v.35? Why do you think there will be no marriage in that age? (See v.36)
6. When Jesus uses the expression “considered worthy” in v.35, what does He mean? Note: when Luke uses the expression “resurrection from the dead” he always has in mind the resurrection of the righteous. What could this imply about the Sadducees?
7. In what way are the resurrected righteous similar to angels? No wishful thinking here. Back up your answer from our text in v.36.
8. Read Exodus 3:15-16. What is the argument Jesus uses from this verse to prove the doctrine of resurrection from the Old Testament. (See v.38)

RESPOND

Read the parallel passage to Luke in Matthew 22: 29-33. What two things did the Sadducees get wrong?

How important are these two elements to believers today? Why? How can we ensure that we are focusing on both in our lives?

How do we learn to know the scriptures better? What mistake had the Sadducees made in this regard and why?

Where does our power come from? See Acts 1:8; Romans 1:16; Philippians 3:10;

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