

**"The God Of The Living"**  
**Matthew 22:23-33**

Job asks this question: **Job 14:14 "If a man dies, will he live again?"**

**We have but 2 Sources for the answers - Human Speculation: or Divine Revelation: Word of God. John 17:17**

**Resurrection** – *"act of rising from the dead, to rise again, to live again"*

**Jesus raised 3 people from the dead during His 3 years of ministry:**

1. A Widow's Son - **Luke 7:14-15**
2. The Daughter of Jairus - **Luke 8:54-55**
3. Lazarus - **John 11:43-44**

**Thought Of Our Passage:** "Rejection Of The Resurrection Only Proves That One Does Not Understand The Scriptures Nor The Power Of God"

- 1. Verses 23-28 Resurrection & Human Speculation:**
- 2. Verses 29-33 Resurrection & Divine Revelation:**

**1. Verses 23-28 Resurrection & Human Speculation:**

**Matthew 22:23 On that day** the day was Tuesday of the Passion Week. Tuesday is referred to as *"The Day of Controversy"* It is a day that Jesus is confronted by the religious leaders with 5 questions.

**The Context** was a political/religious question **"Is it lawful for us to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"**

This morning's next question deals with the **"Life After Death"**  
**The error of thinking that the eternal order is like the earthly!**  
**Sadducees** –They were overseers of the temple in the first century.

**Sadducees prized themselves as being the priests!**  
**Deuteronomy 7:6-8**

**5 False Beliefs Of The Sadducees That Led To Bad Behavior:**

- 1. Sadducees Did Not Believe In The Resurrection: (who say there is no resurrection)** Sadducees claimed it was not in God's Word. They only recognized The Pentateuch as Scripture.

**The Bible records no less than 10 accounts** of people being raised from the dead in both the OT & NT.

**2. Sadducees Did Not Believe In A Future Judgment: Genesis 3:4**  
**The first doctrine doubted and denied by the Devil is that of the judgment of God!**

**3. Belief That The Soul Perishes Along With The Body: (Annihilation)** This is a popular belief today with the cults.

**4. Sadducees Did Not Believe In Angels Or Demons: Acts 23:8**

**5. Sadducees Did Not Believe In Miracles:** They were the equivalent to what we know of today as rationalists –

**came to Jesus and questioned Him,** not coming in sincerity but in trickery.

**Matthew 22:24 asking, "Teacher, Moses said,**

Sadducees are referring to **Deuteronomy 25:5-10** "*Levirate Marriage.*" (*The word levirate comes from the Latin word levir which means "a husband's brother"*) This was God's plan which a family line could be preserved, the property would remain in the family. **Genesis 38:6-18; Ruth 4:1-13**

In the time of Jesus it was no longer practiced so it was just some jibber-jabber talk.

**Matthew 22:25-27** Possibly borrowed from the apocryphal book "**Tobit**"

**Matthew 22:28 resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had married her.**" They thought that after death all would continue as before, thus making this woman and men guilty of incest.

## **2. Verses 29-33 Resurrection & Divine Revelation:**

**Matthew 22:29 "You are mistaken - Latin (err) literally means "to wander astray" (our word planet, wandering stars, Jude 1:13)**

### **2 Point Description of Liberal Theology.**

**1. Not A Clear Understanding Of The Scriptures - (The truth of Scripture) not understanding the Scriptures,**

**The Sadducees' problem was not with the doctrine of the resurrection (They Thought) but the real problem was their ignorance of Scripture!**

**2. Not A Clear Understanding Of God's Power - (God's nature) nor the power of God.**

Notice that **knowing comes before the power** of God! They did not know Him!

**Philippians 3:20-21; Romans 1:4; Luke 20:34**

**Worldly Thinking - The afterlife is not the same order as the present life: "The sons of this age** This is the God given pattern until we leave and go to heaven.

Notice what Jesus said, "**The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage**, Jesus was affirming that Marriage is proper.

**God, Marriage, Then Procreation** We need to invest in marriage and our families but God has to be first!

**Matthew 22:30 "For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage;** When a person dies, they will enter a different state.

**The error of thinking of heaven in terms of earth and of thinking of eternity in terms of time.**

**but are like angels in heaven. (comparison)** He wasn't saying that we become angels – but that like the angels in heaven, there is no need for propagation in heaven as there is on earth, to continue to replace humans that die.

**1 Corinthians 15:43**

**We pray to do God's will on earth as it is in heaven. There, it will be God's will. (Not Making Heaven Like Earth)**

**Romans 6:5**

**Matthew 22:31 "But regarding the resurrection of the dead,** Jesus now confronts their disbelief in the resurrection.

**have you not read what was spoken to you by God:** Jesus now asks them, don't you read the Scriptures?

**You claim the Books of Moses, but have you read them?**

**which was spoken to you by God** note that the OT Law was God's spoken Word to us! **Mark 12:26 "But regarding the fact that the dead rise again,**

**Matthew 22:32**

**Matthew 22:24 saying, "Teacher, Moses said,** He knew that Moses was the only authority they would accept.

**Exodus 3:6**

**This passage teaches 2 great truths regarding life after death:**

**1. When We Die We Don't Leave Our Relationship With God. Our Relationship With God Deepens.**

God is present tense. He did not say, **"I was the God of Abraham,"** for that would mean that Abraham was no more.

**2. After Death We Retain Our Personal Identity Just Like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob.**

**The God of - Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are all alive with the Lord. "The Living God Must Be The God Of Living Men" He is not the God of the dead but of the living."**

**Matthew 22:33-34 He had put the Sadducees to Silence – literally "muzzled"**

**Application:**

- 1. Do I Have A Believing Mind?** A mind that accepts Jesus and His Word as the final authority, rejecting human speculation.
- 2. Do I Believe And Trust In The Power Of God?** A genuine faith that trusts in God who can do the miraculous which results in a life worth living.
- 3. Do I Have The Certainty And Hope Of The Resurrection?** That this present life is but a proving ground for the next.