

**Series "The God Who Serves"**  
**"A Dumb Question"**  
**Mark 12:18-27**  
**Study-48**

**The Setting is "The Passion Week". It is the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry. "The Week That Changed The World."**

**This encounter is recorded in 3 Gospels: Matthew 22:23-33; Mark 12:18-27; Luke 20:27-40.**

**The Thought Of Our Passage:** "One Who Has Experienced Resurrection Power In His Life Has No Difficulty Believing In The Resurrection Of The Dead."

- 1. Verses 18-23 – The Dumb Question**
- 2. Verses 24-27 – The Divine Answers**

**1. Verses 18-23 – The Dumb Question:**

Mark 12:18

"And some Sadducees" – Context: The day is Tuesday of the Passion Week. Tuesday is referred to as "The Day of Controversy."

"Sadducees" – This was a group that was supposed to have started from Zadok, the High Priest at the time of David.

Sadducees Did Not Believe In The Resurrection: "(who say that there is no resurrection)": Resurrection – "act of rising from the dead, to rise again, to live again." (Jews Believed in it, Ezekiel 37; the Messiah reigning); Acts 4:2

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

Sadducees Did Not Believe In A Future Judgment: Gen. 3:4

**The Doctrine Of Judgment is the first doctrine doubted/denied by the Devil in Scripture!**

Sadducees Believed That The Soul Perishes Along With The Body: (Annihilationist's) Josephus said of them.

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

Sadducees Did Not Believe In Miracles: They were the equivalent to what we know of today as "Rationalists".

Sadducees prided themselves on being guardians of the pure faith of the Pentateuch.

Mark 12:19

Deuteronomy 25:5-10 "Levirate Marriage" (The word levirate comes from the Latin word "levir", which means "a husband's brother").

Gen. 38:6-18 – the story Judah and Tamar; Ruth 4:1-13 – with Boaz and Ruth.

Mark 12:20-22

Story possibly borrowed from the Apocryphal book "Tobit".

Mark 12:23

Sadducees – Unconverted thinking was that after death, all would continue as before, thus making this woman and brothers guilty of incest. Or she would be the wife of one of the seven brothers.

## **2. Verses 24-27 – The Divine Answers:**

Mark 12:24

Verse 24 – Why Your Question Is Dumb: "Is this not the reason you are mistaken,"; Latin (err) Literally means "to wander astray" (our word planet, wandering stars, Jude 1:13); "You are deceiving yourself, You blunder, You error badly"; leading yourselves astray by your Biblical ignorance.

**Jesus gives the best description of liberal theology.** Jesus gives two reasons for their failure:

- 1. Not Having A Clear Understanding Of The Scriptures** – "that you do not understand the Scriptures,"; The revelation of God's truth, knowledge, wisdom.
- 2. Not Having A Clear Understanding Of God's Power** – "or the power of God?" (God's Nature); **(To truly know the Scriptures is to believe the Scriptures!) 1 Cor 15:35-52**

2 Tim 3:5

“holding to a form of godliness,” – “having an outward semblance, facade of religion”.

“although they have denied its power;” – “refuse to let it be a power.”

Phil 3:20-21

Rom. 1:4

Luke 20:34

The afterlife is not the same order as the present life: “The sons of this age” (People living in the world).

Verse 25 – Marriage Does Not Continue In Heaven: Mark 12:25

Jesus first addresses in verse 25, the issue of Not a clear understanding of God's power – (God's nature)

“For when they rise from the dead,” – Notice Jesus did not say, “If they rise from the dead!”

The Afterlife Will Not Be Enjoyed By All: Luke 20:35

There Will Be Two General Resurrections. John 5:28-29

Whose Wife Will She Be Of The Seven? – None! “they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.”

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

“like angels” – comparison (Sadducees rejected angels).

1 Cor 15:43

Romans 6:5

Mark 12:26

Verses 26-27 – Jesus Proves The Resurrection From Scripture – “But regarding the fact that the dead rise again,” – Jesus states it as fact, reality!

"have you not read in the book of Moses," – Mark 12:19

Ex 3:6

Passage Teaches 2 Great Truths About Life After Death:

1. When We Temporarily Leave This Body, We Don't Leave Our Relationship With God. It Is Transformed Into A Deeper Relationship.

God is present tense. He did not say, "I was the God of Abraham," for that would mean that Abraham was no more. By saying "I am", the Lord made it clear that these three men of faith were at that time alive.

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

Mark 12:27

"the God of the dead, but of the living;" – The Living God Must Be The God Of Living Men.

Matthew 22:33

Luke 20:39-40

### **Application:**

1. People That Don't Believe The Doctrines Of The Bible Can Be Traced To Not Having A Vital Relationship With God.
2. One Who Has Experienced Resurrection Power In His Life Has No Difficulty Believing In The Resurrection Of The Dead.
3. There Will Be A Resurrection And All Will Be In It. Every Person Will Live Forever. Either A Resurrection Unto Life Or A Resurrection Unto Death.