

## 22:23-28

**The same day** this is a continuation as the Pharisees and their tax question. **the Sadducees,** <sup>P</sup>**who say there is no resurrection,** the question they are about to ask is to place the person who believes in the **resurrection** in a camp where they would be seen as absurdly silly as believing in such a thing can bring about some really awkward situations. **came to Him and asked Him, 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.** See this Deuteronomy 25:5-10 principle lived out in the book of Ruth—I have a commentary on the book of Ruth in an appendix in my commentary on Mark. This is, by the way, at least the 4<sup>th</sup> time the book of Deuteronomy is quoted in Matthew. **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. 26 Likewise the second also, and the third, even to the seventh. 27 Last of all the woman died also. 28 Therefore, in the resurrection [which we don’t believe in], whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her.”**

## 22:29-33

**Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.** Their devaluation of the power of God is related to their ignorance of Scriptures like Genesis 2:7.<sup>1</sup>

This **power** problem—coming from ignorance of the Scriptures—is the indictment of Paul of those before him in Acts 26:8. If God did this once, then how hard is it for Him to do it on resurrection morning? Genesis 22 shows that Abraham may have believed God could do this with his dead and burnt-up son when he told his servants “we’re going to worship and return.”

**30 For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.** This does not mean that angels cannot have sex, for it seems that Genesis 6:1-3 teaches the opposite. This also doesn’t mean angels are genderless for mostly every time they are mentioned, they have a male denotation.

It could be that they **are like angels** in that there will be no more people created as there are no **angels** reproducing even now. All angels that there are now have always been since they were created and therefore, there will be no more. This reproduction issue seems obvious since the Deuteronomy 25:5-10 is for the purpose of reproduction (in the deceased brother’s name).

**31 But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you** so it was written as a record of what God told Moses, and yet Exodus 3 was **spoken to Jesus’** audience. Galatians 4:24 says Mt Sinai is in Arabia. By extension, then, it is God’s Word to us. These strange “Sadducees”, by the way, did not believe the “Scriptures” in a real sense. They did not hold to any portion besides Moses’ works. Yes, Job 19:25, Isaiah 26, Ezekiel 37, Daniel 12:3 speak of this, but then Jesus quotes a portion from what they do, in fact, believe.

**by God, saying, 32 ‘I am the God of Abraham,** By the time Moses is told this by the Lord, it has been around 300 years since **Abraham** has died. **God** said to Moses that **I am the God of**

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<sup>P</sup>Acts 23:8

<sup>1</sup>This seems to be a string of Genesis arguments going all the way back to the opening verses of Matthew

**Abraham** rather than “I was the God of Abraham.” No, **Abraham** was alive when God spoke to Moses. At this point, for over 1500 years these men have lived somewhere.

***the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob”? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.***”

Genesis 2:7 picked up a pile of dirt and breathed into it and made a human being. We are souls who have bodies since we are human beings. Never will a human being be intended to exist without a body. Therefore, even though spirits may exist without a body (assumed to be impossible by Sadducees since they don’t believe in spirits called “angels”), they have an innate expectation to be fully human again (with bodies).

**33 And when the multitudes heard *this*, they were astonished at His teaching.**<sup>2</sup> Once again, these “Sadducees” are the type, like the “scribes and chief priests and elders”; like the “Pharisees & the Herodians” are the type that will, rather than dealing with the Christ that is in front of them and answers provided to them by God, they are going to deaden their senses and salve their consciences by asking mindless questions. Instead of facing the Christ that is clear to them and the Bible they do understand and the truths that are obvious—they are going to ask silly questions and desire to have more answers from questions full of ethical dilemmas and situational “what if’s” and it will be a detriment to you to deny Jesus’ rulership in your life simply because following the Lion of the Tribe of Judah feels so unsafe!

“May I understand more before I obey?” It seems as if we are always seeking a reason to table a topic.

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<sup>2</sup>Matthew 7:28 and 13:54 say the same thing.