

MARRIAGE AND THE RESURRECTION
(Matthew 22:23-33)

- I. The ADVERSARIES (Matt. 22:23)
 - A. The SADDUCEES: wealthy ARISTOCRATS of Judaism
 - B. The DOCTRINAL issue
 - 1. Denied virtually all things SUPERNATURAL or SPIRITUAL
 - 2. Mocked the idea that anyone could RISE from the DEAD (cf. Acts 23:6-8)
- II. The CHALLENGE (Matt. 22:24-28)
 - A. The LAW (22:24; cf. Deut. 25:5-6)
 - 1. If a man died childless, his WIDOW would become the WIFE of his BROTHER
 - 2. Any son she bore the brother would be the HEIR of the DECEASED (cf. Ruth 4:1-10)
 - B. The STORY (22:25-27)
 - 1. The first of SEVEN brothers died without a child, leaving his WIDOW to his BROTHER
 - 2. Each of the other SIX died in succession, each having taken the widow as WIFE, and NONE producing a child
 - C. The QUESTION: “In the resurrection, WHOSE WIFE will she be?” (22:28)

III. The RESOLUTION (Matt. 22:29-32)

A. The REBUKE (22:29)

1. They did not understand the SCRIPTURES
2. They did not understand GOD'S POWER

B. The ANSWER (22:30-32)

1. Resurrected people are LIKE ANGELS in HEAVEN (22:30)
 - a. Resurrected people DO NOT MARRY
 - 1) Marriage is TEMPORAL
 - 2) Marriage is for PROCREATION
 - b. Resurrected people are GLORIFIED and ETERNAL
2. God is the God of the LIVING, not of the DEAD (22:31-32)
 - a. To still be their GOD after they had DIED requires life BEYOND the GRAVE
 - b. To fulfill His PROMISES after they had DIED requires RESURRECTION to NEW LIFE

IV. The IMPACT (Matt. 22:33; Lk. 20:39-40)

A. The CROWDS were ASTONISHED (22:33)

B. Some of the SCRIBES were IMPRESSED (Lk. 20:39)

C. The Sadducees were INTIMIDATED into SILENCE (Matt. 22:34; Lk. 20:40)