

Mk series pt 48

Here's the problem...

I want see solutions to the problems we face today in the pages of the Bible.

Without distorting the scripture

But it starts with careful study

Then the lights go on!

This is a journey I get to go on countless times!

- Sadducees modern counterpart is liberal Christians/progressive Christians.
 - And P/lib is a serious issue
 - When you understand how Jesus dealt with the Sads, you will know how to identify and deal with modern progressives.

Mark 12:18–27 (NASB95)

¹⁸Some Sadducees (who say that there is no resurrection) came to Jesus, and began questioning Him, saying,

¹⁹“Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies and leaves behind a wife and leaves no child, his brother should marry the wife and raise up children to his brother.

²⁰“There were seven brothers; and the first took a wife, and died leaving no children.

²¹“The second one married her, and died leaving behind no children; and the third likewise;

²²and so all seven left no children. Last of all the woman died also.

²³“In the resurrection, when they rise again, which one’s wife will she be? For all seven had married her.”

²⁴Jesus said to them, “Is this not the reason you are mistaken, that you do not understand the Scriptures or the power of God?

²⁵“For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

²⁶“But regarding the fact that the dead rise again, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the burning bush, how God spoke to him, saying, ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’?

²⁷“He is not the God of the dead, but of the living; you are greatly mistaken.”

- In short

- Another Jewish group asks a trick question
- Jesus answers it AND rebukes them soundly
- And I think this applies to
 - Rob Bell, Richard Roar, Brian Zahnd, and a whole lot of other people today.

Mark 12:18–27 (NASB95)

¹⁸Some Sadducees (who say that there is no resurrection) came to Jesus,

- We need to know who these guys are
 - But we don't
 - All we have is the NT, Josephus & Talmud (I think)
 - What do we know?
 - 1- there is no resurrection. (no judgment, no afterlife), no angels, no spirit
 - *Josephus - 4. (16) But the doctrine of the Sadducees is this: That souls die with the bodies;*¹
 - 2- also rejected fate/God's control (perhaps determinism?)
 - 3- a minority view
 - 4- an aristocracy view
 - Priestly families
 - Josephus says some Sadducees would pretend pharisaic views to get more popularity
 - JUST LIKE modern progressives
 - 5- Some think they only held to Moses' law
 - They seemed to have a special place for it but...
 - They didn't reject the scripture that disagreed with them, they reinterpreted them!
 - "resurrection" was your kids living on after you die.
 - See Roger Beckwith's "The OT Canon of the NT Church" pg. 87-91 (ch 2)
 - This let them use double-speak
 - Modern equivalent
 - Not atheists... religious liberals.
 - Progressive theology is
 - Rejecting essential Christian teachings
 - Judgment, hell, exclusivity of Christ,
 - Resurrection
 - Often an aristocracy view (highly educated)
 - Often disingenuous sleeper agents
 - Beware those who have secret theology
 - Often using scripture to fight scripture
 - Not genealogical connection, ideological connection
 - Not conspiracy – patterns repeat.
 - How Jesus responds to them is perfect for today
- To understand their trick question, we need to understand **Levirate marriage**
 - Not Levite marriage!
 - Levir = brother in law
 - **Deuteronomy 25:5–6 (NASB95)** ⁵"When brothers live together and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the deceased shall not be married outside the family to a strange man. Her husband's

¹Josephus, F., & Whiston, W. (1987). [*The works of Josephus: complete and unabridged*](#) (p. 477). Peabody: Hendrickson.

brother shall go in to her and take her to himself as wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her. ⁶"It shall be that the firstborn whom she bears shall assume the name of his dead brother, so that his name will not be blotted out from Israel.

- To preserve the inheritance

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- Why do they think this is a good question?
 - It makes the conservative belief look silly
- Trying to use scripture against scripture
 - Selective use of scripture, a common modern progressive tactic
 - Obama - "I don't think it should be called marriage, but I think that it is a legal right that they should have that is recognized by the state. If people find that controversial, then I would just refer them to the Sermon on the Mount, which I think is, in my mind, for my faith, more central than an obscure passage in Romans. That's my view. But we can have a respectful disagreement on that."
 - Judgment – "more about restoring than punishing"
 - "The message of the cross is God's love, not God's wrath"
 - Jesus' response corrects this.
 - "The Scripture cannot be broken"
 - Fulfillment – not unhitching

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- Their trick question
 - She marries seven brothers; whose wife is she in the resurrection?
- Why this is so clever and SO needful today.
 - 1- the Sadducees had a REASON they rejected the resurrection
 - It wasn't in the Pentateuch (they said)
 - In Psalms, Isaiah, Job, Daniel...
 - 2- Modern theologians say the same
 - A common view
- Jesus' answer refutes that specifically.
 - He quotes Exodus 3:6 ("have you not read in the book of Moses")
 - Do you think the afterlife/resurrection isn't in the OT till very late?
 - Jesus disagrees
 - And He knows God's intention when talking to Moses
 - He was the one speaking from the burning bush
 - <https://youtu.be/ryCyQ4N08Q0>
- Another Torah indication of an afterlife
 - Enoch was taken by God

- “God needed another angel”
 - Yes – their purpose isn’t ended
 - A funeral isn’t a good time to split hairs

27 “He is not the God of the dead, but of the living; you are greatly mistaken.”

- Lessons
 - The Bible is supernatural – resist the temptation to naturalize everything.
 - Fishes and loaves
 - Walking on water
 - Exodus judgments
 - If it’s exegetical, that’s fine. (wind drove back the water)
 - If it’s based on a false assumption of naturalism
 - **24 Jesus said to them, “Is this not the reason you are mistaken, that you do not understand the Scriptures or the power of God?”**
 - Don’t start with your gut reasoning
 - Start with scripture and the power of God
 - Areas this impacts
 - Hell
 - Sin must be bad
 - Heaven seems too ideal
 - Your imagination
 - Sincere, good people can’t go to hell!
 - People aren’t good.
 - The Bible can’t be trusted, it was written by men
 - By the power of God!
 - Is God so weak He can’t use fallible men?
 - I have a hard time understanding the Trinity
 - But is it biblical?
 - My feelings, my gut opinions aren’t the authority
 - “Gandhi in hell?”
 - The Bible is
 - Jesus appealed to Scripture as authoritative in response to the question
 - Progressives abuse Jesus
 - Jesus affirms the things they want to use Him to deny
 - Judgment, hell
 - supernatural stuff
 - God actually spoke through a burning bush
 - that He’s the only way AND that some deny Him.
 - The theology of Jesus protects us
 - How much did Jesus actually agree with the Pharisees?
 - 4 areas of agreement
 - Supernatural worldview
 - The afterlife and resurrection
 - The inspiration and authority of ALL of the OT Scripture
 - Messianic focus of the OT
 - 3 areas of disagreement
 - Traditions as doctrines
 - Authority of the seat of Moses
 - Great responsibility – limited authority

- Self-righteousness
 - All sinners
- How much did Jesus agree with the Sadducees?
 - Not at all
- Hold fast
 - “fundies” have a lot right

Video Handoff

Mark playlist

BZ vid – best example of progressive refutation