

## Jesus Refutes the Sadducees

Luke 20:27 – 20:40

Presented by Bob DeWaay  
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
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### Key issues in this section

- The Sadducees wish to discredit Jesus
- They assume that the levirate marriage law creates an absurdity if the resurrection is true
- Jesus refutes their reasoning by explaining the truth about the resurrected state
- Again Jesus' critics are silenced

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### The Pharisees were the aristocracy of Israel

- **Luke 20:27**  
Now there came to Him some of the Sadducees (who say that there is no resurrection),

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They intend to use the law of the levirate marriage to confound Jesus

■ **Luke 20:28**

and they questioned Him, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife, and he is childless, his brother should marry the wife and raise up children to his brother."

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The levirate marriage

■ **Deuteronomy 25:5, 6**

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 brother shall go in to her and take her to himself as wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her. 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.

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They hope to prove the doctrine of the resurrection is an absurdity

■ **Luke 20:29 - 33**

Now there were seven brothers; and the first took a wife and died childless; and the second and the third married her; and in the same way all seven died, leaving no children. Finally the woman died also. In the resurrection therefore, which one's wife will she be? For all seven had married her.

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The need for marriage will not exist after the resurrection

- **Luke 20:34, 35**

Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage”

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The Sadducees did not believe in angels

- **Luke 20:36**

for they cannot even die anymore, because they are like angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.

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The Sadducees only believed in Torah

- **Luke 20:37, 38**

But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the burning bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Now He is not the God of the dead but of the living; for all live to Him.

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Rather than discredit Jesus they enhance His status

■ **Luke 20:39, 40**

Some of the scribes answered and said, "Teacher, You have spoken well." For they did not have courage to question Him any longer about anything.

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Applications and Implications

1) We must not allow sectarian thinking to silence Biblical evidence

2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

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1) We must not allow sectarian thinking to silence Biblical evidence

■ **Acts 23:6**

But perceiving that one group were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, Paul began crying out in the Council, "Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; I am on trial for the hope and resurrection of the dead!"

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1) We must not allow sectarian thinking to silence Biblical evidence

■ **Acts 23:7, 8**

As he said this, there occurred a dissension between the Pharisees and Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, nor an angel, nor a spirit, but the Pharisees acknowledge them all.

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1) We must not allow sectarian thinking to silence Biblical evidence

■ **Acts 23:9**

And there occurred a great uproar; and some of the scribes of the Pharisaic party stood up and began to argue heatedly, saying, "We find nothing wrong with this man; suppose a spirit or an angel has spoken to him?"

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1) We must not allow sectarian thinking to silence Biblical evidence

■ **1Corinthians 1:12, 13**

Now I mean this, that each one of you is saying, "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," and "I of Cephas," and "I of Christ." Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

- **Isaiah 26:19**  
Your dead will live; Their corpses will rise. You who lie in the dust, awake and shout for joy, For your dew is as the dew of the dawn, And the earth will give birth to the departed spirits.
- **Daniel 12:2**  
Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt.

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

- **John 5:28, 29**  
Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

- **John 6:28, 29**  
Therefore they said to Him, "What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

■ **1Thessalonians 4:16, 17**

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

■ **1Corinthians15:23, 24**

But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

■ **1Corinthians15:42, 43**

So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a perishable body, it is raised an imperishable body; it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power;

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

■ **Revelation 20:4b, 5**

And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Jesus and because of the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection.

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

■ **Revelation 20:6**

Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years.

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2) We need to understand the Biblical doctrine of the resurrection

■ **Revelation 20:12, 13**

And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds.

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