

## Devo #56

## Marriage in Heaven

### Read Mark 12:18-27

**18** Then Jesus was approached by some Sadducees—religious leaders who say there is no resurrection from the dead. They posed this question:

**19** “Teacher, Moses gave us a law that if a man dies, leaving a wife without children, his brother should marry the widow and have a child who will carry on the brother’s name.

**20** Well, suppose there were seven brothers. The oldest one married and then died without children. **21** So the second brother married the widow, but he also died without children. Then the third brother married her.

**22** This continued with all seven of them, and still there were no children. Last of all, the woman also died. **23** So tell us, whose wife will she be in the resurrection? For all seven were married to her.”

**24** Jesus replied, “Your mistake is that you don’t know the Scriptures, and you don’t know the power of God.

**25** For when the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage. In this respect they will be like the angels in heaven.

**26** “But now, as to whether the dead will be raised—haven’t you ever read about this in the writings of Moses, in the story of the burning bush? Long after Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had died, God said to Moses, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’

**27** So he is the God of the living, not the dead. You have made a serious error.”

**Who were the Sadducees (v. 18)?** One of the two major religious parties of the day. The Pharisees were the other. The Sadducees only believed in the first five books of the Bible. **What didn’t they believe in?** The resurrection.

**God gave Moses a law to give to the Jews which said if a married man died, his brother has to marry the dead man’s wife, so the family line could continue. What crazy question did they ask Jesus (vv. 19-23)?** (Read and explain vv. 20-23)

**Why did they ask Jesus this ridiculous question?** To try and trick him into saying something wrong so they could accuse Him of blasphemy (saying bad things about God) and make the Jews mad at Him.

**What two things did Jesus accuse the Sadducees of not knowing (v. 24)?** They didn’t know the Bible and they didn’t know the way God works.

**What did Jesus say about marriage in heaven (v. 25)?** There won’t be any marriage in heaven.

**Who did Jesus say that God is (not was!) the God of (v. 26)?** Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. (That’s what God said in Exodus 3:6) **Who is He not the God of (v. 27)?** Dead people. **Therefore Abraham, Isaac and Jacob must be what?** Alive. They’re alive in heaven. God is the God of living people.

**What point was Jesus making?** The book of Exodus is one of the five books of the Bible that the Sadducees believe in. But they don’t believe in the resurrection. Jesus is showing them, from Exodus 3:6 that these three men are not dead; they are alive. God says that He **is** their God right now – not He **was** their God. These three men had to have been resurrected. This proves that the resurrection is real – and Jesus proved it from one of the five books they believe in. Jesus proved that the Sadducees are wrong in believing there is no resurrection.