

Matthew 22:23-33 Far better than we can imagine



The chief priests and elders, and then the Pharisees and Herodians, have been unable to trip Jesus up with their accusations or trick questions. So now the Sadducees take the opportunity to present one of their (they think) unanswerable questions, proving their point of view, to Jesus. Surely he will have to bow to the force of their argument!

On the contrary, **Jesus' reply to the Sadducees shows the flaws in their reasoning and their basic lack of faith.**

➤ The nuts and bolts of the passage

Who are the modern equivalents of the Sadducees? Where will you find them in our modern society?

Do you find yourself agreeing with anything in the (seeming) logic of the Sadducees' argument? So have we started to believe the hidden assumptions in their position, that "heaven" – or "glory" – or "the resurrection" is basically similar to life here and now?

Just how do "the Scriptures" and "the power of God" reveal the weakness of the argument? Could we be ignorant of either?

What do you make of Jesus' "he is the God of the living" line?

➤ What *do* we (and *don't* we) know about "the resurrection"?

What questions about "the resurrection" come to your mind?

What do we know – or know that we *don't* know?

Are we content to live with some "blissful ignorance" here?

➤ What else might we be falsely extrapolating?

How about that "the church is very much like the world" line?

What other whoppers do we (maybe inadvertently) buy into?

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