*32* STUDY OF MARK 2020

The God of the Living

Mark 12:18-27

“He is not the God of the dead, but of the living. You are badly mistaken!" (27)

1. Who were the Sadducees[[1]](#footnote-1) that came to Jesus? (18) Why do you think they did not want to belief in the resurrection? (Afterlife: Heaven and Hell)( 2 Cor 5:10[[2]](#footnote-2)) To prove that there can be no resurrection and afterlife, what hypothetical story did they tell Jesus? (19-22[[3]](#footnote-3), Dt 25:5-10) Then what question did they ask Him? (23)
2. According to Jesus, why were the Sadducees in error? (24) What did Jesus teach about what God will do to the dead when they rise? (26; 1Co 15: 51-52[[4]](#footnote-4)) What implications does this have for marriage in heaven? How does this give hope to the fatalistic Sadducees?
3. Read verse 26. How does this quote from Exodus 3:6 show that God is living? That Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob resurrected from the dead and are also living with God? (26, Exodus 3:6[[5]](#footnote-5))
4. Read verse 27. Who does the “living” refer to? What does it mean to you that God is living? What hope can we have in the God of the living as we live in this world?
1. Sadducees were members of a Palestinian sect, consisting mainly of priests and aristocrats. They were differed from the Pharisees chiefly in its literal interpretation of the Bible, rejection of oral laws and traditions, the denial of an afterlife and the coming of the Messiah. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. **2 Corinthians 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.” [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Moses gave the law of levirate marriage, which prescribed what should happen when a man died with no heirs. The law was primarily motivated by the desire to keep the brother’s inheritance in the family. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. **1 Corinthians 15:51-52** - Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. **Exodus 3:6 -** Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)