



The Gospel of Matthew

"The God of the Living"
Matthew 22:23-33



On that same day some Sadducees (who say there is no resurrection) came to Him and questioned Him, saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'IF A MAN DIES, HAVING NO CHILDREN, HIS BROTHER AS THE NEXT OF KIN SHALL MARRY HIS WIFE, AND RAISE UP AN OFFSPRING TO HIS BROTHER.'

Now there were seven brothers with us; and the first married and died, and having no offspring left his wife to his brother; so also the second, and the third, down to the seventh. And last of all the woman died.

In the resurrection therefore whose wife of the seven shall she be? For they all had her."

But Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God.

For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like the angels in heaven.

But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read that which was spoken to you by God, saying, I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB? He is not the God of the dead but of the living."

And when the multitude heard this, they were astonished at His teaching. (Matthew 22:22-33)



"God of the Living"

➤ *The Sadducees*

- the priestly aristocracy and majority party of the Sanhedrin
- held strictly to the written Torah
- did not believe in resurrection or any existence of life after death



"God of the Living"

1. Knowing the Scriptures

- *"I am the God of Abraham..."* (Ex. 3:6)
 - a covenant relationship with the living God is a relationship that lasts as long as God lasts
 - God will raise the dead because He cannot fail to keep His promise that He will be their God



“God of the Living”

2. The Power of God

➤ *discontinuity in the resurrection*

- it is a mistake to picture resurrected life as identical to life in this age
- God is able to transform the body with a radical newness, perfectly fitted for the age to come



“God of the Living”

No marriage in the resurrection?

- God designed marriage to be a “signpost” to our relationship with Christ (His “bride”); this “marriage” will be consummated in heaven
- though marriage will cease, relationships will only grow and deepen and expand based on our unhindered relationship to Christ



“God of the Living”

2. The Power of God

➤ *discontinuity & continuity in resurrection*

- we will not be angels or spirit-beings but human (physical) beings radically transformed
- we will have imperishable, powerful, spiritual bodies adapted for the eternal kingdom