

**We like** to be **right**, **don't we?**

**We** have **opinions** -

& **generally** - we **think** our **opinions** are **right**

& **so** we **spend** a **lot** of **time**

**figuring** out **ways** - to **protect** our **opinions**

& **ways** to **prove** that our **opinions** are **CORRECT**

& **THAT** is **the part** of **this text**

I'd **really like us** to **focus on today**

**because that** is **EXACTLY WHAT**

the **Sadducees** are **doing here**

**This** is the **"NEXT ROUND"**

in the **Cage Fight**

**between Jesus** - & the **Religious**

& **Political Leaders** of **Jerusalem**

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**In** this **round** – we **get** to **know** the **SADDUCEES**

as **they** are **sent in** - to try to **"Take Down"** **Jesus**

We saw a **Reference** to the **SADDUCEES**

**Back** in **Round one** - (**Mark 12:27**)

But - they are back today – with what they think is –  
a new “Knock-Out Punch” – For Jesus

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The Sadducees were ONE  
of the THREE Religious/Political Groups

that had Joined Forces  
to REMOVE Jesus from their culture

& the Sadducees were VERY FULL - of their Own Opinions  
& they Fought VERY HARD to Maintain Them

& The One Opinion - that comes to light today is

The Sadducees did NOT BELIEVE in the Resurrection

& because of this – the SADDUCEES – were SAD, You See

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Even Tho they were SAD (& Mad)

The Sadducees were the Religious/Political  
ELITE CLASS of Jerusalem

They had the MONEY - & they Oversaw - ALL TEMPLE life –  
& ALL EVENTS at the Temple

Which means – the massive money making operation -  
Jesus Physically Attacked TWICE – in the Temple Courts

Was OWNED by the SADDUCEES

& so – they had a very PERSONAL Vendetta against Jesus

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They were also very closely TIED to Rome

& They worked very closely with ROME  
on all matters – of Religious RULE – over for the people

& They were the ones who Ultimately  
Orchestrated the Crucifying of Jesus - by Rome

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& Finally – the Sadducees  
were constantly fighting with the PHARISEES

who had OPPOSITE Opinions on many things

& BOTH groups drew their Opposite Opinions  
from what we would call today – The O.T. of the Bible

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the Sadducees believed – the first 5 books of Moses (Pentateuch)  
were the Absolute RULE from God

& they believed the rest of what we call the O.T.  
was more like Commentary

& of far lesser importance - than the Books of Moses

& so – if there was something in the Remainder of the O.T.  
that was not in the First 5 Books – they disregarded it

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The Pharisees were the Exact Opposite -

They took God's 10 commandments

& they ADDED 613 of their OWN commandments

to supposedly "help" everybody - follow God's original 10

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These two Religious/Political Groups

(Along With the Herodians)

Were ALL constantly FIGHTING each other

But - when it came to Jesus

they were all on the EXACT SAME PAGE

Jesus of Nazareth - MUST be taken down - & eliminated

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& so today – It's the Sadducees turn

To go into the Ring with Jesus

& AS they do - we learn

Not only - what THEIR MISTAKE IS

AND what OUR MISTAKE MIGHT BE

But we also get some Great Encouragement

from Jesus - about the Resurrection

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**Mark 12:18 (NLT)**

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

**Now – guys - It is **IMPOSSIBLE** for me  
to **NOT APPLY** this to our **Political Culture** today**

Because **THIS IS** – **Political Theater**

The **Sadducees** have **NO REAL QUESTION** for **Jesus**

Their **ONLY motivation** - is to **take Jesus DOWN**  
**in** the **eyes** of the **people** who are **following him**

& **so** they **worked out** a **SCHEME** -  
**CLOAKED** in a **hypothetical situation**

that **they hoped** would **turn the crowd** - **against Jesus**

& **if that's not** an **example** – of **how** our **Media Works** today  
I **don't know** what **would be**

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**The problem** is – the **Sadducees** **thought**  
**they** were **dealing** with a **MAN**

& they **REFUSED to Believe**  
they **might actually** be **dealing** with - **GOD in the Flesh**

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& so – they begin with an insincere platitude –  
& then present their hypothetical set-up

### Mark 12:19 (NLT)

**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.**

This is TRUE

Moses DID teach this (Deut 25:5)

The Sadducees left out a few DETAILS here

but this is called – The Law of LEVIRATE MARRIAGE  
which is basically explained in V.19

& The Book of RUTH is based around

The LEVIRATE MARRIAGE – (*& the Kinsmen Redeemer*)

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But, of course – the Sadducees didn’t really want  
to DISCUSS the Law of Moses – with Jesus

They’re just using it - to try to get the People  
to think LESS of Jesus

& hopefully – get them - to turn against him

So – they lay out – the BEST TRAP they could come up with  
to try to ENSNARE the LORD of Glory

*(good luck with that)*

**here it is - Mark 12:20-23 (NLT)**

***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.”***

**Remember – the Sadducees**

**Don't Believe in the Resurrection**

**& - the Law of Moses - re: the LEVIRATE MARRIAGE**

**had NOTHING to Do with the Resurrection**

**They just created this Hypothetical Situation –**

**Then TIED IT to the Resurrection (*which they don't believe*)**

**to try to STUMP Jesus - in the Eyes of the people**

**Which seems to us – to be absolutely CRAZY**

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**But RIGHT HERE - is where**

**we REALLY need to PAY ATTENTION - (*this is today's M.I.P*)**

**I started today – by saying**

**We like to be right**

**We have opinions that we think are right**

**& we spend a lot of time - protecting our opinions -  
& proving that our opinions are RIGHT**

**THAT is OUR Nature**

**& THAT is the NATURE of ALL these Religious Groups**

- **BUT - The Sadducees - Were WRONG**
  - The **Pharisees & Herodians** from Last week – **Were WRONG**
  - The **“Religious Leaders”** of the Previous week – **Were WRONG**
  - & **these groups** - that **made up** the **Sanhedrin** – **Were WRONG**
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**& so – Can I ask you - to Consider**

**JOINING Me – in making a Commitment today**

**Can we Make a Commitment today**

to **TRY to NOT - Be WRONG - In the SAME WAY**  
**that ALL these Leaders Were WRONG?**

**Would you CONSIDER Making that Commitment with me today?**

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**Ok then – in LOVE**

**& Directed at BOTH of US – YOU & ME**

**HERE - is what Jesus says - IS OUR MISTAKE**

**Mark 12:24 (NLT) → →**



**Mark 12:24 (NLT)**

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

**In all of our OPINIONS**

**In all of our VIEWS**

**In all of our JUDGMENTS**

**Is there a chance that OUR MISTAKE IS**

**That we don’t know the Scriptures?**  
**& we don’t know the power of God?**

**Is there a chance – THAT is OUR MISTAKE**

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**I’d like to just - STOP & PRAY – about THIS VS right now**

**& about the possibility that WE may be**  
**More LIKE the SADDUCEES - than we think**

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**& I understand that you may be here today**

**& not really be Ready to WRESTLE**  
**with such a question – between you & God**

**& so – If this is Deeper**  
**than you want to go with God today**

**Just Listen to Me Pray - & Listen for God’s Voice**

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So – Let's just BOW our Heads  
& I'm going to PRAY

& if you can – You PRAY with me

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Lord, Jesus – DO I NOT KNOW Your WORD well Enough  
That I am putting MY OWN opinion - OVER your Word?

Lord – DO I NOT KNOW your POWER well Enough -  
that I am putting MY OWN understanding – OVER your Power?

Lord – Is My Mistake  
that I view your WORD – thru MY OWN Opinions?  
and I view your POWER – thru MY OWN Understanding?

Lord, pls DON'T LET me do  
what the Religious Leaders are doing here

God – Forbid me – from using your Word  
to try to SUPPORT – or PROVE - MY Own OPINION

Lord, your Word – is YOUR WORD – Not Mine

& so Lord, please give me the commitment  
AND the POWER of the Holy Spirit

to RECEIVE what YOUR WORD Says – AS you wrote it

Help me RECEIVE it - & BELIEVE it  
JUST AS you intended it to be received

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& Lord – please Enable me - to Truly Believe  
your all-things-are-possible - POWER

Lord, I can't Grasp your Power with my limited understanding  
You have to place this knowledge in in my heart

& so Lord - please give me the GIFT OF FAITH  
to believe the unlimited extent of your power

Open the eyes of my heart Lord - remove the scales from my eyes  
& cause me to me awe-struck

by the fact that your power is beyond anything  
I could ever conceive - or imagine - in my human thinking

Lord – I confess today  
That I don't know your LIVING WORD enough  
& I don't know your UNLIMITED POWER enough

& Lord, I surrender to that right now

& I pray you would CRUSH my Pride  
& My High-Thinking of myself

& that you would give me a Full Measure of Faith

That I would KNOW your Word  
in a deeper - & more accurate way

& that I would BELIEVE – in a Life-Changing Way  
your Unlimited - Immeasurable POWER in my life

For your glory, & in your Name Jesus - AMEN

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Pls Hear Me - as we Watch Jesus  
knock out the Religious Leaders

in Round after Round of this Cage-Fight

We CANNOT See ourselves - as JESUS  
Because we DON'T have HIS Nature

We HAVE to See ourselves - as the Religious Leaders  
Because we DO have THEIR Nature

& so – our PRAYER - & our COMMITMENT – MUST BE

LORD – Don't let me make the SAME MISTAKE they made

LEAD ME to KNOW - your WORD BETTER  
& your POWER MORE - - Amen?

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Alright – let's finish with some Awesome Encouragement  
about the Resurrection

The SADDUCEES Used the Resurrection  
to try to TRAP Jesus

So – Jesus takes the opportunity  
to Clarify things for them – AND for us

Mark 12:25 (NLT) → → →

**Mark 12:25 (NLT)**

***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.***

**BAAM** – in **TWO Sentences**

**Jesus HANDLES** this little **MARRIAGE TWIST** challenge

**In** the **Resurrection** – we will **NOT BE Married**  
**OR** be **Given in Marriage**

**But** – that **DOES NOT mean** – we **won't KNOW** our **spouses**  
or **have** a **Deeper Heavenly Relationship** with **them**

It **means** we **won't be MARRIED** – in **the sense** of  
a **Relationship Designed** – for **Pro-Creation** – **or Sex**

The **Levirate Marriage** - the **Sadducees** brought up  
**Was** all **about** - **Pro-Creation** thru **Sex** (*keep family name going*)

& - **So I hate** to **break** the **news**  
to both the **Mormons** & the **Muslims**

But – the **Bible** is **clear** - There is **NO SEX in Heaven**

**Because** our **Relationships** will be  
**Even Closer**, & **Better** – **than Sex**

**AND** – **there** will **be no need for Pro-Creation**

**(great way to recruit young men to your religion tho)**

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Then Jesus clarifies (end of v.25)

*In this respect they will be like the angels in heaven*

Just Meaning - the Angels aren't Married (or have sex) now  
& *In this respect* – we will be like them

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& then Jesus continues in

Mark 12:26-27(a) (NLT)

*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 . . .*

In another *Knock-Out Punch* – in *Another Round*

Jesus uses the Writings of Moses  
the ONLY writings the SADDUCEES fully believe

To make it perfectly clear to them –  
The Resurrection is REAL

& God is the God – of the ETERNALLY LIVING

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When God said *He IS the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.*

It is a reference to their WHOLE person  
of the entirety of WHO they ARE

**Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob**  
are **STILL** – **WHO they were** on **earth**

**But** – in a **GLORIFIED STATE**

**Which** we **see a Picture of** - with **Moses** & **Elijah**  
on the **Mt of Transfiguration (Mat 17)**

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**Guys** - **We will** be **MORE Recognizable**  
& **More LOVING** - & **LOVABLE**

**In Heaven** – than **we are** - **here on Earth** – (*Get the HEAVEN series*)

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There **may** be **no marriage**  
but **our relationships** will be **MORE REAL**,

**Because** they will be **Glorified**,  
& **Un-marred by Sin**

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& **So** – To **End this Round** –  
**Jesus** puts the **Sadducees in their place** - **At** the **end** of **Vs. 27**

**Mark 12:27(b) (NLT)**  
***27 . . . You have made a serious error.***

**Lets Pray**