



I AM THE WAY Pt 4
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"You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32 (NLT)

TODAY – Jesus has a conversation with three different groups of people.

- Each group came to Jesus to try to USE Him and TRICK Him.
- And at the end of the day – all of them stand in amazement at Jesus!

The Games People Play

Matthew 22 (NIV)

(v. 15) *Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap Jesus in His words.*

(v. 16) *They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others because you pay no attention to who they are.*

(v. 17) *Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?"*

(v. 18) *But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, WHY are you trying to trap me?"*

(v. 19) *Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius,*

(v. 20) *And Jesus asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"*

(v. 21) *"Caesar's," they replied. Then Jesus said to them, "So give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."*

(v. 22) *When they heard this, they were **amazed**. So they left him and went away.*

(v. 23) *That SAME day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus with a question.*

(v. 24) *"Teacher," they said, "Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for him.*

(v. 25) *Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother.*

(v. 26) *The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh.*

(v. 27) *Finally, the woman died.*

(v. 28) Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?"

(v. 29) Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures OR the power of God.

(v. 30) At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.

(v. 31) But about the resurrection of the dead – have you not **read** what God said to you,

(v. 32) 'I **AM** the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is NOT the God of the dead – but He is the God of the LIVING."

(v. 33) When the crowds heard this, they were **ASTONISHED** at Jesus' teaching.

(v. 34) Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

(v. 35) One of them, an expert in the law, tested Jesus with this question:

(v. 36) "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

(v. 37) Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

(v. 38) This is the first and greatest commandment.

(v. 39) AND - the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

(v. 40) ALL the Law and the prophets hang on these two commandments."

(v. 41) While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,

(v. 42) "What do you think about the Messiah? WHOSE son is he?" "The son of David," they replied.

(v. 43) He said to them, "How then is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls Him 'LORD'? For he says

(v. 44) "'The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.'"

(v. 45) If then David calls him 'LORD,' then how can He be his son?"

(v. 46) No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one DARED to ask Jesus any more questions.