

dead, that his name be not put out of Israel (Deuteronomy 25:6). They told the story of seven brothers who one after the other died, leaving the widow to the successive brothers. They wanted the Lord to tell them whose wife she would be in the resurrection, since she had been the wife of all seven while on earth. This proved, to them, there could be no resurrection.

Jesus told them they were in error, *not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God* (Matthew 22:29).

1. What was His explanation to them on this subject concerning the resurrection? (Matthew 22:30)
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Jesus then declared there will be a resurrection, for God said He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, who are living eternally with Him.

Out of Exodus 3:6, He quoted to them, *God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.*

In the resurrection world there will be neither death nor marriage. The Sadducees had no reply, but *certain of the scribes answering said, Master, Thou hast well said* (Luke 20:39).

QUESTION OF THE GREAT COMMANDMENT (Matthew 22:34-40); Mark 12:28-34)

The Pharisees soon gathered together after Jesus had put the Sadducees to silence, and asked Him which is the great commandment in the law.

1. Which two commandments was His answer?
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PARABLE OF THE MARRIAGE FEAST (Matthew 22:1-14)

Jesus now introduced the fact of the climax of the judgment on those who rejected Him, will be as a marriage feast. There will be those who will rejoice contrasted to those who will receive God's punishment.

Jesus spoke of the marriage of the son of a certain king who sent out wedding invitations. There were many who actually refused the invitation, claiming the pressure of business as an excuse. The king had intended to honor them (Israel), but they took his servants and treated them badly and killed them.

1. What did the king do next? (Matthew 22:7)_____
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2. What did the king say to his servants? (Matthew 22:8)_____
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Then Jesus said in Matthew 22:9, *Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.* The highways, here, is thought to mean, according to some scholars, "the place where a street cuts through the city border line and goes out into the country.

The meaning of this parable is quite obvious. The Jews were the first to enjoy the good things of the kingdom; but when they rejected the opportunity, the Gentiles would be brought in.

When the king surveyed his guests, he discovered one who was not wearing a wedding garment (Matthew 22:11). Questioned, — the man remained speechless (Matthew 22:12). The wedding garment represents our covering of righteousness (Revelation 19:7-9). The king commanded him to be expelled from the room. He is the type of those who prefer their own righteousness to the righteousness provided by Christ. Such will be cast into outer darkness.

So there had been two elimination processes: (1) All who refused the king's invitation were rejected. (2) All those who presumed to come to the wedding without the righteousness of Christ, were expelled from the feast.

Jesus interpreted the story with this simple statement, *Many are called , but few are chosen*. All who are called will not be saved. It isn't because God, the king, rejects men, but because they reject His call, and some try to come "another way".

QUESTION OF THE TRIBUTE MONEY (Matthew 22:15-22; Mark 12:13-17; Luke 20:20-26)

The Pharisees came up with a plan to provoke Jesus into saying something against the governor. There were also two other groups involved in this plot. The Pharisees *sent unto Him their disciples with the Herodians* (a political party who believed the doctrines of Herod the Great), *with a question*.

1. What was their question? (Matthew 22:16, 17)

2. What was Jesus' reaction? (Matthew 22:18,19)

They had pretended they were "just men" to throw Him off, but instead of entrapping Him, He displayed His discernment and great wisdom through the Gifts of the Spirit.

3. When they brought unto Him a penny (a denarian worth about 17 cents), what classic answer did He give them? (Matthew 22:21b)_____

When they heard these words, they marveled, and left Him, and went their way (Matthew 22:22).

QUESTION OF THE SADDUCEES (Matthew 22:23-33; Mark 12:18-27; Luke 20:27-40)

Defeated, the Pharisees and the Herodians went their way. But that same day, there came to Jesus the *Sadducees, which say there is no resurrection, and asked Him* a question. First of all, they referred to the Mosaic law in Deuteronomy 25:5, which states a man should marry the widow of his brother and raise up seed of which the *first-born which she beareth shall succeed in the name of his brother which is*