

The God of the Living

Mark 12:18-27

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Mark 12:18-23 ESV And Sadducees came to Him, who say that there is no resurrection. And they asked Him a question, saying, **19** "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife, but leaves no child, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother." **20** There were seven brothers; the first took a wife, and when he died left no offspring. **21** And the second took her, and died, leaving no offspring. And the third likewise. **22** And the seven left no offspring. Last of all the woman also died. **23** In the resurrection, when they rise again, whose wife will she be? For the seven had her as wife.

Isaiah 26:19; Daniel 12:2; Deuteronomy 25:5-6

I. Jesus's thoughts are far higher than ours.

Mark 12:24 ESV Jesus said to them, "Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God?"

Isaiah 55:8; Ecclesiastes 3:11b (NLT)

II. Jesus's plan is far better than ours.

Mark 12:25 ESV For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

Isaiah 64:4; Ephesians 5:32

"Surely God's purpose for his children in the resurrection is not only that eternal life will replace death, and righteousness replace sin, and health replace sickness, and joy replace sorrow, and pleasure replace pain but also that unimaginable, unending, ever-increasing ecstasies replace the best of our most intense pleasures in this world. In other words, the age to come is not only an improvement over the worst of this world, but over the best." - **John Piper**

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Mark 12:26-27 ESV And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God spoke to him, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? **27** He is not God of the dead, but of the living. You are quite wrong."

"We should take the teaching and the very words of the Bible very seriously. Jesus built his case on the tense of one word – the verb "am" – in one verse of the Bible. Jesus' attitude toward the Scripture is one of complete trust and (even) minute obedience. We cannot follow him and trust him without adopting for ourselves his attitude toward the Bible."
-**Timothy Keller**

III. Jesus's covenant is far greater than we can comprehend.

Genesis 17:7a