

The God of the Living

Scripture

“The same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him and asked Him, saying: ‘Teacher, Moses said that if a man dies, having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up offspring for his brother. Now there were with us seven brothers. The first died after he had married, and having no offspring, left his wife to his brother. Likewise the second also, and the third, even to the seventh. Last of all the woman died also. Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had her.’ Jesus answered and said to them, ‘You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven. But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.’ And when the multitudes heard [this], they were astonished at His teaching” (Matthew 22:23-33 NKJV).

Commentary

We see here two great errors of the unregenerate, Scriptural ignorance and unbelief. Jesus said, “. . . If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:31-32 NKJV).

Many of those to whom He spoke these words had a superficial belief in Him (read John 8). Likewise, many believe in God, but not many abide in God. They believe in the concept of God, but they deny His authority. They deny His word.

Do you believe God is the God of the living? Jesus taught the resurrection to His disciples. That included eternal life. There would be no need for marriage in heaven, because there would never be anymore death. There is no need to re-populate if no one ever dies or leaves.

The Sadducees didn’t believe in the resurrection, and so they sought to trap Jesus in His words. However, their foundation was the traditions of man, and not the Word of God. Therefore, Jesus rightly indicts them. They did not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

Do not allow yourself ever to be in the position of the Sadducees. Know the Word of God, study to show you are approved. Trust in the God of the Bible for the remission of sin and eternal life.

God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. Are you among the living?

Prayer

Father, the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving. Open their eyes that they might see the truth and turn from their wickedness to life everlasting. Make us who see guides to the blind. Have mercy on those around us, and encourage us by your Holy Spirit to be faithful witnesses, amen.