Jesus vs. the Sadducees

The Sadducees

• A small group of powerful religious leaders
• Centered on the temple and the high priest
• Held unique doctrines
  – Only the Pentateuch is authoritative
  – No resurrection
  – No angels or spirits (Acts 23:8)
Acts 23:8 (ESV)

8 For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, nor angel, nor spirit, but the Pharisees acknowledge them all.
Jesus vs. the Sadducees

• The Sadducees’ conundrum (v. 27-33)
There came to him some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. And the second and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. Afterward the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had had her as wife.”
Jesus vs. the Sadducees

- The Sadducees’ conundrum (v. 27-33)
- Jesus’ solution (v. 34-36)

34 And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, 35 but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, 36 for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.
Jesus vs. the Sadducees

• The Sadducees’ conundrum (v. 27-33)
• Jesus’ solution (v. 34-36)
• Jesus solution to their real problem (v. 37-38)

37 But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. 38 Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.”
Jesus vs. the Sadducees

• The Sadducees’ conundrum (v. 27-33)
• Jesus’ solution (v. 34-36)
• Jesus solution to their real problem (v. 37-38)
• Jesus is acknowledged the victor (v. 39-40)
39 Then some of the scribes answered, “Teacher, you have spoken well.” 40 For they no longer dared to ask him any question.
Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
Lessons from the Conflict

• Jesus knows everything
• Jesus has all the solutions
• Jesus always wins
• I want to be on Jesus’ side