

Sunday, February 12, 2012—Mark Dispensationally Considered—Mark 12:18-27: Is There Marriage in Heaven?

Mark 12:18-27

- **18) Then come unto him the Sadducees, which say there is no resurrection; and they asked him, saying,**
 - 19) Master, Moses wrote unto us, If a man's brother die, and leave [his] wife [behind him], and leave no children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother.**
 - 20) Now there were seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and dying left no seed.**
 - 21) And the second took her, and died, neither left he any seed: and the third likewise.**
 - 22) And the seven had her, and left no seed: last of all the woman died also.**
 - 23) In the resurrection therefore, when they shall rise, whose wife shall she be of them? for the seven had her to wife.**
 - 24) And Jesus answering said unto them, Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of God?**
 - 25) For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven.**
 - 26) And as touching the dead, that they rise: have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying, I [am] the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?**
 - 27) He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living: ye therefore do greatly err.**
- Mark 12:18—now it is the Sadducees turn to try and trip Jesus up. The Sadducees were sad you see because they said there is no resurrection.
 - Mark 11:27-33—chief priest, scribes, and elders
 - Mark 12:13—the disciples of the Pharisees and Herodians
- Mark 12:19—the Sadducees thought they had figured out a question about the law of marriage which would cause Christ to say something whereby they might accuse Him of breaking the Law of Moses.
 - Deuteronomy 25:5-6
- Mark 12:20-22—the Sadducees present to Christ an elaborate scenario where seven brothers take them same wife and each one dies leaving her with no seed. Finally the woman dies also.
 - Matthew 22:25-27—seems to indicate that the brothers and the women were known unto the Sadducees. In other words their question revolves around an actual occurrence not some hypothetical scenario.

- Mark 12:23—now we come to the meat of their question. In resurrection which one of her seven husbands will be her spouse?
 - Matthew 22:28
 - Luke 20:33
- Mark 12:24—Jesus tells the Sadducees that they err because they knew not the scriptures or the power of God. The marginal notes in the *Scofield Reference Bible* suggest that Christ answer highlights three major problems of a rationalist.
 - Self-deception—Romans 1:21-21
 - Ignorance of the spiritual content of scripture—Acts 13:27
 - Disbelief in the intervention of divine power—II Peter 3:5-9
- Mark 12:25—Jesus answer by saying that in the resurrection the woman will not have a husband because when the dead are raised “they neither marry, nor are given in marriage.” Christ then use a simile (“but are as the angles”) to compare the condition of resurrection saints with that of the Angles. The reason there is no marriage in heaven is because people will be made like angles and angles don’t marry, aren’t born, and can’t die.
 - Matthew 22:30—angels don’t marry
 - Luke 20:34-36
- Why is there no marriage amongst the angles in heaven? Angles in the Bible are always men, i.e., they are male.
 - Revelation 21:17
 - Mark 16:5
 - Daniel 3:22-25
- What is the Bible’s definition of marriage? One man and one woman for one life time.
 - Genesis 2:21-25—“Therefore shall a man . . . cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”
- The reason the angles in heaven don’t marry is because they are all men. For them to marry would be a violation of God’s definition of marriage. I believe the Bible does record instances of Angels marrying and cohabitating with the daughters of men, i.e., female women.
 - Genesis 6:1-2, 4—the giants in the earth were the direct result of the sons of God (angels) taking wives of the daughters of men. This unnatural union creates an unnatural race of men (giants) as Satan attempts to pollute the seed line and prevent the seed of the woman from being born.

- Genesis 6:9—Noah was perfect in his generations. In others words, Noah’s seed had not been corrupted or tainted by these unnatural unions and their unnatural off spring.
- Job 1:6, 2:1, 38:7

- In order for fallen angels to marry (take wives) they had to come down the earth and marry the daughters of men because all the angles in heaven are male. Because all the angles are male there is no marriage in heaven. This is the main point of what Christ’s answer to the Sadducees, none of the seven brothers who married the lady on earth will be her husband because there is no marriage in heaven. Marriage is an earthly institution for the orderly functioning of man on the earth.

- The Bible’s definition of marriage is under attack in our day. The Bible is very clear about the nature of homosexual activity.
 - Leviticus 18:22, 20:13
 - Romans 1:26-27—even the fallen angles knew this type of behavior was unnatural. This is why they need to take wives of the daughter of men.
 - I Corinthians 6:19
 - I Timothy 1:10

- The Bible is clear that homosexuality is sin and an abomination to God. The very admission that this type of behavior is a sin is what allows it to be forgiven. Jesus Christ died for this just as much as he died for any other.

- Mark 12:26-27—the Sadducees accepted only the books of Moses and claimed that Moses did not teach resurrection. Jesus quotes Exodus 3:6 to show that although Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had been physically dead for years, Moses spoke of them as living. Therefore, there must be life beyond the grave. If the patriarch had become non-existent there was no possibility of a resurrection. But they did exist and therefore could be resurrected.