**PLAYING GAMES WITH GOD
Luke 20:27 (ESV)**

*27 There came to him some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection,*

**SADDUCEES vs. PHARISEES**

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| Primarily political, aristocratic | Primarily religious |
| Roman collaborationists | Anti-Rome, anti-tyranny |
| Only emphasized books of Moses (Pentateuch) | Accepted all OT scriptures + numerous regs. |
| Anti-miraculous, anti-resurrection | Believed in angels, demons, and resurrection |
| Unrestricted free-will | Fatalism |
| No interest in Messiah – maintain status quo | Hope for a Messiah, Davidic deliver |

 **THE SURFACE ISSUE – WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THE LIFE TO COME? (IF THERE IS ANY)**

*28 and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us (Deuteronomy 25) 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. 29 Now (suppose) there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. 30 And the second 31 and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. 32 Afterward the woman also died. 33 In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.”*

1. **THE LIFE TO COME IS DISTINCT FROM THIS LIFE**

*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.*

1. **THE LIFE TO COME IS CONNECTED TO THIS LIFE**

**2 Samuel 12:23** *But now he is dead. Why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he will not return to me.”*

**1 Thessalonians 4:13** *But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep.*

1. **THE LIFE TO COME IS BETTER THAN THIS LIFE**

**1 Corinthians 2:9** *“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”*

**Revelation 21:1-5** *“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.”*

***Philippians 3:19-20 “****20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.”*

**Psalm 16:11** “You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

1. **THE LIFE TO COME IS REAL**

*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.”*

*39 Then some of the scribes answered, “Teacher, you have spoken well.” 40 For they no longer dared to ask him any question.*

**THE UNDERLYING ISSUE – THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS AS LORD**

*41 Then Jesus said to them, “Why is it said that the Messiah is the son of David? 42 David himself declares in the Book of Psalms: “‘The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”’*

*44 David calls him ‘Lord.’ How then can he be his son?”*

 **QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION:**1. Have you received the free gift of salvation? (**A**dmit you’re a sinner, **B**elieve in Christ as your only savior, **C**hoose to follow Him as Lord)

2. Have you been playing games with God’s authority in your life? If so, will you submit to His authority today?