

TRADITIONAL VIEW OF HOLY WEEK

Sat	Palm Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Good Friday	Sat Sabbath	Easter Sun
	Rides into Jerusalem as king	Teach	Teach	Teach	Teach & Last Supper	Tried and Crucified	In the Tomb	Risen Appears to followers
Sabbath						Day of Preparation	Pass-over	

ANOTHER VIEW OF HOLY WEEK

Sat	Palm Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Good Friday	Sat Sabbath	Easter Sun
Rides into Jerusalem as king	Teach	Teach	Teach & Last Supper	Tried and Crucified	In the Tomb	In the Tomb	In the Tomb	Appears to followers
Sabbath				Day of Preparation	Pass-over	Feast of Unleavened Bread	Rises after 6 p.m.	

WALK THE TALK

1. What are some common myths that you hear repeated regularly?
2. Why did the Sadducees not believe in the resurrection of the dead?
3. How did Jesus support the reality of the resurrection?
4. What questions come to mind about marriage as a result of Jesus' teaching about the age to come? How might being in God's very presence change our relationships?
5. How does a person with the hope and promise of eternal life live this life differently than a person who has no such hope?



January 28 & 29, 2017 | Testing Jesus #5 | Luke 20:27-40 | Steve Fish

TWO LESSONS FOR THIS SERIES:

1. In seven consecutive stories we see Jesus being TESTED, and we see Him testing the DOUBTERS.
2. Jesus is the ONLY exception to the rule that *"You can fool all of the people some of the time."*

MYTH BUSTERS

Luke 20:27 Some of the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus with a question. 28 "Teacher," they said, "Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife but no children, the man must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother."

1. The Sadducees were an ARISTOCRATIC ruling party who were influential within the priesthood and among the wealthy. They are associated with the city and the Temple.

- They adhered solely to the TORAH for their doctrine.

- The thought that the dead are resurrected was PREPOSTEROUS in their interpretation of Moses.

- The first century Jewish idea of SALVATION was vastly different from our understanding. God 'saved' by rescuing a person from death to live another day. The AFTERLIFE was attained by the continuation of one's lineage - having sons to bear a man's image and to remember a man after he dies.

2. The Levirate law

- The purpose of this law was to give a CHILDLESS, deceased man an heir so that his name would continue. It extends to him an afterlife by continuing his name.

Deuteronomy 25:5 If brothers are living together and one of them dies without a son, his widow must not marry outside the family. Her husband's brother shall take her and marry her and fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law to her. 6 The first son she bears shall carry on the name of the dead brother so that his name will not be blotted out from Israel.

Example: the story of Judah's sons in Genesis 38:6-11.

AN ABSURD SCENARIO

Luke 20:29 Now there were seven brothers. The first one married a woman and died childless. 30 The second 31 and then the third married her, and in the same way the seven died, leaving no children. 32 Finally, the woman died too. 33 Now then, at the resurrection whose wife will she be, since the seven were married to her?"

1. Why seven brothers? Does this number comes from the Book of Tobit, an apocryphal writing which is included in the Old Testament of Catholic Bibles?

Tobit 3:8 For she [Sarah] had been married to seven husbands, and the wicked demon Asmodeus had killed each of them before they had been with her as is customary for wives. So the maid said to her, "You are the one who kills your husbands! See, you have already been married to seven husbands and have not borne the name of a single one of them. (NRSV)

- No matter the origin, the Sadducees intentionally offered an IMPLAUSIBLE story in order to make the idea of a resurrection appear IMPOSSIBLE.

2. The Sadducees took liberties with the Levirate law making marriage the main issue of the discussion.

AN AUTHORITY ON RESURRECTED LIFE

Luke 20:34 Jesus replied, "The people of this age marry and are given in marriage. 35 But those who are considered worthy of taking part in the age to come and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, 36 and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God's children, since they are children of the resurrection.

1. No one else COULD and so no one else WOULD answer the question of the Sadducees as Jesus did.
a. He spoke of two ages.

b. He spoke of one's worthiness (v. 35) and the condition of being children of the resurrection (v. 36).

c. He spoke of marrying and being given in marriage.

1.) His teaching is applied to both males and females.

2.) His teaching also underscores the priority of living in the presence of God over the intimacy of the strongest of human relationships.

d. He spoke of IMMORTALITY. Children of God are like the angels in this specific condition - they no longer die.

2. Jesus' answer demonstrated His authority to speak, and at the same time BUSTED the foundation of the Sadducees' CHALLENGE and their ERRONEOUS interpretation of Moses.

THE MYTH CONFIRMED - NOT DEAD BUT ALIVE

Luke 20:37 But in the account of the burning bush, even Moses showed that the dead rise, for he calls the Lord 'the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' 38 He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive."

1. Jesus addressed the core of the Sadducees' argument to demonstrate clearly what Moses taught.

2. Jesus referred back to Moses' ORIGINAL conversation with God to show that Moses believed the dead rise because of God's revelation of Himself.

Exodus 3:6 Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

Mark 12:26b . . . have you not read in the Book of Moses . . . how God said to him, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'?"

3. GOD is a GOD of the alive.

THE ULTIMATE MYTH BUSTER - THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS NO LONGER QUESTIONED

Luke 20:39 Some of the teachers of the law responded, "Well said, teacher!"

1. Jesus' answer invoked praise from those He had silenced and highlighted the division of those who opposed Him - it was BRILLIANT!

2. No one questioned Him OPENLY again.

Luke 20:40 And no one dared to ask him any more questions.