

**MUSIC: SHAWN HOELSCH** 

# **Resurrection to Eternal Life: God's Redemptive Goal For Humanity**

Luke 20:27-39

# Temple Authorities Attempt to Humiliate Jesus with an Absurd Puzzle

**MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD** 

**Luke 20:27** There came to him some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, 28 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. 29 Now 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."

# Jesus' Divine Wisdom Exposes the Limits of the Sadducees' Understanding

# 1. Their materialism traps them in a time-bound error.

**Luke 20:34** 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.

Acts 13:46 And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles... 48 And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed.

# 2. Their materialism blinds them to Torah's witness to resurrection & eternal life.

**Luke 20:37** 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."

**Exodus 4:6** And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

**NOTES:** 

### The Wisdom of the Son of God Silences His Opposition

**Luke 20:39** Then some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, you have spoken well." 40 For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

### Jesus' Resurrection as "Christ", Secures the Father's Eternal Purposes for Humanity

**1 Peter 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5 who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 8 Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, 9 obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### **Review/Discuss/Apply:**

1) We are inundated with the present moment and the apparent finality of death. How can remembering God's purpose for you (resurrection to eternal life) change the way you think about your life and particular circumstances?

2) Read John 11:21-27. What comfort do you receive from Jesus's statement that he himself is the resurrection and the life? How does Mary's response in verse 27 contrast with the Saduccees view of Jesus and scripture?

3) The Hebrew scriptures aren't silent regarding resurrection and eternal life. Compare Job 19:25-27, Psalm 16:10-11, Psalm 23:6, Daniel 12:2, and Isaiah 26:19. What common threads do you see?

4) Peter acknowledges (1 Peter 1:8) that his audience had not seen Christ, but that they had come to love him, trust him and rejoice in his life-giving resurrection. How does 1 Peter 1:3-25 fill your heart with gratitude and joy to the Father and his Risen Son?

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