

Answers to Questions

"Is There a Resurrection?"

Matthew 22:23-33

I am being sanctified by the grace of God; my life has been set apart to live for His glory.

Introduction: Ever since the beginning of time man has had questions.

A. It is part of our makeup.

1. How does God just speak and things that were not now exist?
2. One of my favorites as I have shared on many occasions is how does my heart keep beating without me thinking about?
3. Why does it seem when one bad thing happens it seems to create a snow ball effect and is followed by several more difficulties?
4. What makes music sound good?

= Why do we drive on a parkway and park on a driveway?

- Didn't see that one coming did you well it illustrates my point many of our questions really are not very important or even if we had answer it would little if any affect on our lives.

B. It appears to me that man is too focused on the answer that he wants to the question more than asking the right questions.

= Over the next few weeks I want to ask the right questions, questions that when we have the answer will change our lives.

- It is true that God does not give us the answers to all of our questions but He has given us enough answers that our lives can be changed and directed in God's Holy character.

= My prayer in this series is not to seek an answer that we want to hear but to ask the right questions and allow the answers to change our lives.

➤ Let's look at the first question: Is there a resurrection? READ Matthew 22:23-33

- Before we begin let me say that our search for an answer is not for the how: God is neither obligated or is it needful for us to know how God does what he does but to simply by faith believe the answer.

The first part of our answer there is life after this one:

I. **The Question** verse 23-29

A. Jesus responds to this ridiculous question by saying that you are mistaken:

1. Mistaken on two counts: You don't understand scripture and you don't understand the power of God.
- The question that they were asking concerning this woman who married all seven brothers as they died off (sounds like something off of Jerry Springer) it was ridiculous.
 - They were not really asking a question at all what they were trying to do, which is often what man does, is take something that we think we already know and trick God into giving us an answer that fits what we already have in our minds.

= These men were convinced that there was no life after death that when you die that is it!

- The purpose of their question was not to get an answer but to further their own agenda.
 - Church if we are not asking the right questions but instead seeking God's approval for our own preconceived thoughts of the flesh then we are guilty as these Sadducees. – **Then we do not understand the scriptures and we underestimate the power of God!**

B. In response to their question Jesus addresses as a matter of fact.

1. In the resurrection he says: he left no question if there a resurrection, if there is a life after this life straight forward.

- Isn't amazing how we don't hear the answer if it is not the answer that we are wanting to hear?

C. He says they don't understand the scripture: Throughout all of God's word there is the ongoing theme of death being defeated:

1. I Corinthians 15:54-57 **⁵⁴But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, "^(A)DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.**

⁵⁵"^(B)O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY? O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?"

⁵⁶The sting of ^(C)death is sin, and ^(D)the power of sin is the law;

⁵⁷but ^(E)thanks be to God, who gives us the ^(F)victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Church if we understand the scriptures we understand the answer to the question is there resurrection?**

- Jesus said to Martha when he was talking to her concerning the death of her brother: I am the resurrection and the life.

- I Thessalonians 5:9-10 For God has not destined us for (A)wrath, but for (B)obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰(C)who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.

= Church the real answer to real questions are found in the scriptures and in understanding the power of God.

D. Now not for a moment could we say that way have an exhaustive understanding of the power of God.

1. It is impossible in our present state of being for us to fully comprehend the awesomeness of God.

= But the fact that we understand that God's power is beyond limitations gives revelation to the answer to our question: Is there resurrection, is there life after this life?

2. The one thing that baffles scientist is life, man cannot create it nor can he sustain it and doesn't even talk about bring it back.

= But understanding that God is creator and nothing is created except God create.

- Understanding that it is by the power of God and God alone that life is sustained.
- Gives insight into the power of resurrection which rest solely in the hands of God!

Transition: God answers this ridiculous question: She won't be married to anyone in Heaven because there is no marriage in Heaven.

1. But He also answers the real question the one that they really only want to hear what they want to hear.
 - The purpose of their question was simply to validate their own desire.
2. Jesus told them that do not understand the Word of God and they do not grasp the awesome power of God.

= Then to finish His answer He drive home a point.

■ **God is a God of the Living!**

II. **The God of the Living** verse 31-33 **READ**

A. Jesus then takes them back to Exodus 3:6

1. There stands Moses in front of a burning bush that is not consumed (and they question the power of God).
2. God is introducing Himself to Moses and tells Him who He is.

- He says: **He said also, "(A)I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob " (B)Then Moses hid his face, for he was (C)afraid to look at God.**

B. What did these men have in common: They all believed God, God had used them to further His great work, they were all pillars of faith.

- But he wasn't talking about any of these things the point was that they had all died!

- Yet God did not tell Moses that He had been the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob but that He is the God of these patriarchs of faith!

C. The precept is that they were not dead in that they did not exist but their bodies may have been laid in the ground but they continue to live in the resurrection of Christ!

1. It makes us to understand that Paul writes to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

= The answer to our question this morning is there resurrection, is there life after this one is Yes.

- For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes should not perish but have eternal life.

Closing: Church we spend so much time and energy trying to find the question that matches our answer.

- A. We have things figured out now we just need to find something to support our answer.
 - B. Many of our questions that we allow to just eat us up are questions that the answer simply belongs to God and there is no answer needed just faith which He will supply.
- But there are questions that God wants to answer for us.
 - The question this morning is “Is this it” when my heart stops beating and they put this body in the ground is that it?
 - Should I eat drink and be merry because this is the only life I have?

= The answer is found in the Holy Scripture of God: He tells us of two eternal places.

#1 10 And (A)the devil who (B)deceived them was thrown into the (C)lake of fire and
brimstone, where the (D)beast and the (E>false prophet are also; and they will be
(F)tormented day and night forever and ever.

15 And if anyone's name was not found written in (A)the book of life, he was thrown into
the lake of fire.

#2 And (A)he carried me away [a](B)in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed
me (C)the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,

11 having (D)the glory of God Her brilliance was like a very costly stone, as a (E)stone of
(F)crystal-clear jasper.

12 It had a great and high wall, (G)with twelve (H)gates, and at the gates twelve angels;
and names were written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the sons
of Israel.

13 There were three gates on the east and three gates on the north and three gates on
the south and three gates on the west.

14 And the wall of the city had (I)twelve foundation stones, and on them were the twelve
names of the (J)twelve apostles of the Lamb.

15 The one who spoke with me had a gold measuring (K)rod to measure the city, and its
(L)gates and its wall.

16 The city is laid out as a square, and its length is as great as the width; and he
measured the city with the rod, [b]fifteen hundred miles; its length and width and height
are equal.

17And he measured its wall, ③seventy-two yards, according to ④human measurements, which are also ⑤angelic measurements.

18The material of the wall was ⑥jasper; and the city was ⑦pure gold, like clear ⑧glass.

19⑨The foundation stones of the city wall were adorned with every kind of precious stone The first foundation stone was ⑩jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, ⑪emerald;

20the fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, ⑫sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysoprase; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

21 And the twelve ⑬gates were twelve ⑭pearls; each one of the gates was a single pearl. And the street of the city was ⑮pure gold, like transparent ⑯glass.

22I saw ⑰no temple in it, for the ⑱Lord God the Almighty and the ⑲Lamb are its temple.

23And the city ⑳has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine on it, for ㉑the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the ㉒Lamb.

24㉓The nations will walk by its light, and the ㉔kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

25In the daytime (for ㉕there will be no night there) ㉖its gates ㉗will never be closed;

26and ㉘they will bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it;

27and ㉙nothing unclean, and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are ㉚written in the Lamb's book of life.

■ Church I not sure that maybe we should be on our feet!

➤ Church is there a resurrection?

= O Yes we will all live forever my friend the question only remains where?

Only you and God know the answer to that question this morning if you would like to talk to someone about your faith in Christ your belief that Jesus died for your sin defeated death and is the giver of life someone will meet you here.