



Matthew Chapter 22 **The Sadducees vs The Pharisees**

Last week during our study into Matthew chapter 21 we spoke about the authority of our Messiah being challenged by the rabbinical Pharisees of his time. And we made note of how our Messiah had fashioned a whip out of some cords and had gone into his Father's temple and kicked over the tables and turned over the trays of the money changers who were turning his Father's house into a marketplace.

And we also saw our Messiah turning the tables on these wicked rabbinical Pharisees when they began to challenge his authority. And we saw our Messiah ask these rabbinical Pharisees where the baptism of John the Baptist had come from. And because these wicked rabbinical Pharisees could not answer our Messiah, he told them that he was not going to answer their question either concerning who gave him his authority.

This is once again going to be very important over the next few chapters to understand. The wicked rabbinical Pharisees of our Messiah's time were those he referred to as children of the devil. But there was another group called the Sadducees who our Messiah did not call the children of the devil even though they had trouble acknowledging the concept of resurrection.

As we read through Matthew chapter 22, we are going to see a distinct difference between the Sadducees and the Pharisees. And we're going to find out very quickly that even though both religious theologies had their

flaws, one religious theology was so bad that its creators were called children of the devil while the other group although still lost... was not.

And so, as we read through the 22nd chapter of the book of Matthew we need to pay very, very close attention because there is indeed a stark difference between the Sadducees and the Pharisees that can be seen within the confines of the scriptures. And we'll explain more about the similarities and the differences between these two groups a little bit later on after we read Matthew chapter 22.

And so, let's do that first thing here this morning so that we can know exactly what Matthew chapter 22 says and just as importantly what Matthew chapter 22 does not say. Let's read... **Matthew chapter 22 E1**

The Parable of the Wedding Feast

Mat 22:1 And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying,

Mat 22:2 "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son,

Mat 22:3 and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, **but they would not come.**

Mat 22:4 Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.'"

Mat 22:5 **But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business,**

Mat 22:6 **while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them.**

Mat 22:7 The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

Mat 22:8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, **but those invited were not worthy.**

Mat 22:9 Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.'

Mat 22:10 And those servants **went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.**

Mat 22:11 "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there **a**

man who had no wedding garment.

Mat 22:12 And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless.

Mat 22:13 Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Mat 22:14 For many are called, but few are chosen."

Paying Taxes to Caesar

Mat 22:15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words.

Mat 22:16 And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances.

Mat 22:17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?"

Mat 22:18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites?"

Mat 22:19 Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius.

Mat 22:20 And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?"

Mat 22:21 They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

Mat 22:22 When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Sadducees Ask About the Resurrection

Mat 22:23 The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question,

Mat 22:24 saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies having no children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.'

Mat 22:25 Now there were seven brothers among us. The first married and died, and having no offspring left his wife to his brother.

Mat 22:26 So too the second and third, down to the seventh.

Mat 22:27 After them all, the woman died.

Mat 22:28 In the resurrection, therefore, of the seven, whose wife will she be? For they all had her."

Mat 22:29 But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God."

Mat 22:30 For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

Mat 22:31 And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God:

Mat 22:32 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living."

Mat 22:33 And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

The Great Commandment

Mat 22:34 But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together.

Mat 22:35 And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

Mat 22:36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

Mat 22:37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

Mat 22:38 This is the great and first commandment.

Mat 22:39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

Mat 22:40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Whose Son Is the Christ?

Mat 22:41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question,

Mat 22:42 saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David."

Mat 22:43 He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

Mat 22:44 "'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'?"

Mat 22:45 If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?"

Mat 22:46 And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

As we can clearly see, there is quite a lot here in Matthew chapter 22 to unpack.

The first parable that our Messiah speaks of is known as the parable of the wedding feast. And in the parable of the wedding feast, we find a

plethora of Bible truths that are rooted not in the New Testament... but in the Old Testament.

As we have stated many times throughout our studies in both the Old Testament and the New Testament, the Torah, the writings of the prophets, and the Psalms were all a red carpet that our Father in heaven was laying out for the arrival of his only begotten Son.

From the very beginning when Yehovah God chose Abraham to be the father of all nations, we must understand why it was that Yehovah God chose Abraham to be the father of all nations in the first place. And we can find why Yehovah God chose Abraham in **Genesis chapter 26 verses four and five. (scrn 1)**

Why God Chose Abraham;

Gen 26:4 I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed,

Gen 26:5 because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.”



Once again, the reason that our Father in heaven chose Abraham to be the father of all nations was because Abraham was living in the midst of a pagan nation when Yehovah found him in the land of Ur in Mesopotamia. His original name was “Avram”. And the land of Ur, that he came from was an important Sumerian city-state in ancient

Mesopotamia.

The God that was worshiped there was called “Nanna”. And believe it or not in the Akkadian language this God was called “Sin”. (scrn 2)

Ur = The Abode of Sin

The site is marked by the partially restored ruins of the Ziggurat of Ur, which contained the shrine of Nanna, excavated in the 1930s. The temple was built in the 21st century BC (short chronology), during the reign of Ur-Nammu and was reconstructed in the 6th century BC by Nabonidus, the last king of Babylon.



The Ziggurat of Ur

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ur>



This Samarian god “Nanna or Sin in akkadian” was essentially a moon god. And the name of the city of Ur was derived from the god’s name “Unug” which literally means “the abode of Nanna” or in Akkadian “The Abode of Sin”.

And so, the point that needs to be made here is that Abram, also known as Abraham, was chosen out of a pagan Samarian land referred to as... The Abode of Sin. And I want us to stop and think about this for just a moment because I would submit to you that this speaks volume as to why Yehovah chose Abram from... The Abode of Sin.

Why did Yehovah God choose a man to be the father of many nations in the first place? In order to get a clear picture as to why Yehovah God chose a man to be the father of many nations we need to go back and

read **Deuteronomy chapter 32 verses seven through nine E2**

Deu 32:7 Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you.

Deu 32:8 When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God.

Deu 32:9 But the LORD's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.

Deu 32:10 "He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.

As we can clearly see here in Deuteronomy chapter 32 when Yehovah gave to the nations their inheritance he divided mankind and he fixed the borders of the people according to the number of the sons of god.

Now if you don't know who the sons of God are, once again I would encourage you to go read Psalms chapter 82 where it is written that God has taken his place in the divine counsel, in the midst of the gods he holds judgment. And I would also encourage you to go read Daniel chapter 4 verses 13 through 17 where we learn that King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon was turned into an animal and forced to roam the land for seven years by a decree of the Watchers who are also known as "the holy ones." **Daniel chapter 4 verses 13 through 17 E3**

Dan 4:13 "I saw in the visions of my head as I lay in bed, and behold, a watcher, a holy one, came down from heaven.

Dan 4:14 He proclaimed aloud and said thus: "Chop down the tree and lop off its branches, strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the beasts flee from under it and the birds from its branches.

Dan 4:15 But leave the stump of its roots in the earth, bound with a band of iron and bronze, amid the tender grass of the field. Let him be wet with the dew of heaven. Let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth.

Dan 4:16 Let his mind be changed from a man's, and let a beast's mind be given to him; and let seven periods of time pass over him.

Dan 4:17 The sentence is by the decree of the watchers, the decision by the

word of the holy ones, to the end that the living may know that the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men.'

Once again, because it was written back in Deuteronomy chapter 32 that God had divided mankind according to the number of the sons of god... It was indeed these sons of god who themselves were god's according to Psalms chapter 82... and these little "g" gods were leading the other earthly nations. And this is exactly why King Nebuchadnezzar was turned into an animal to roam the fields for seven years not by God himself... but by his holy ones, the Watchers, the sons of God. This curse upon King Nebuchadnezzar was not by the decree of Yehovah God... but was done by the decree of the sons of God who were also known as "the watchers" or "the holy ones". Once again, what is holy belongs to God. And the sons of God were created by God and therefore belonged to God and were worthy of being called, "the holy ones".

The problem is that these sons of God, the holy ones of God also became corrupt. And this is exactly what Psalms chapter 82 is all about. Let's read that very quickly so that we can understand what's going on here.

Psalms chapter 82 E4

Rescue the Weak and Needy

Psa 82:1 A Psalm of Asaph. God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment:

Psa 82:2 "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? *Selah*

Psa 82:3 Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.

Psa 82:4 Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

Psa 82:5 They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

Psa 82:6 I said, "You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you;

Psa 82:7 nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince."

Psa 82:8 Arise, O God, judge the earth; for you shall inherit all the nations!

As we can clearly see here in Psalms chapter 82 according to the Bible, there are indeed many gods. The sons of god were known as gods, and God himself even called them gods also known as “Elohim”. But these Elohim, these little “g” gods became corrupt, and we see Yehovah chastising them here in Psalms chapter 82 for judging unjustly and showing partiality to the wicked. Yehovah tells these little “g” gods, in verse six that although they are “gods”... sons of the Most High... nevertheless they shall die like men and fall like any prince.

Yehovah God has always included his heavenly host in overseeing mankind.

You know it always amazes me that people cannot fathom that UFOs could ever be real. People can't fathom, they can't even imagine other creatures other than mankind watching over mankind. But right here it is in your Bible. Many people think that mankind is the only creation of God. But our Bibles continuously tell us that our Father in heaven from the very beginning had a heavenly host, a divine counsel, and that he has always sat in his divine counsel in the midst of the gods. And once again, not says I... but says your God breathed Scripture. Listen closely to what the apostle Paul tells us in **first Corinthians chapter 15? E3**

1Co 15:39 For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish.

1Co 15:40 There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another.



Yehovah God has always included his other creation in overseeing mankind. Consider how King Ahab fell. It was time for King Ahab to be killed in battle but who decided how this was going to happen? Did God alone decide that King Ahab was going to be killed in battle? Or did God consult the host of heaven before King Ahab was going to be killed in battle? Let's turn to **first Kings chapter 22 verses 19 through 23 E5**

1Ki 22:19 And Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing beside him on his right hand and on his left;

1Ki 22:20 and the LORD said, 'Who will entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?' And one said one thing, and another said another.

1Ki 22:21 Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, saying, 'I will entice him.'

1Ki 22:22 And the LORD said to him, 'By what means?' And he said, 'I will go out, and will be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And he said, 'You are to entice him, and you shall succeed; go out and do so.'

1Ki 22:23 Now therefore behold, the LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; the LORD has declared disaster for you."

According to the prophet Jeremiah here in first Kings chapter 22 it was a

spirit from God's heavenly host that came up with the idea and volunteered to be a lying spirit in the mouth of the prophets of King Ahab. And it was Yehovah God that sanctified and ordained this idea and commanded it to be so.

And what does Jeremiah tell us in verse 23? Jeremiah says that Yehovah has put a lying spirit in the mouth of your prophets and that Yehovah has declared disaster for you. Now if a spirit came up with this idea, and it was this spirit that was going to execute this plan... Then why would Jeremiah say that Yehovah himself had put a lying spirit in the mouth of the prophets of Ahab?

The Internet question is simple. Who led the house of Israel out of Egypt? Was it God? Or was it Moses? Who defeated the Giants in the land of Canaan so that the house of Israel take over that land? Was it the house of Israel? Or was it God?

Once again, and we have explained that several different times... God always uses his creation in order to fulfill his plans. Who warned the house of Israel that they were sinning? Was it God? Or was it the prophets? Once again, the answer is always God who works through his creation in order to achieve his unfolding plan for mankind.

It is written that our Messiah is going to be the one to return. But the prophets all say that it will be the great and terrible day of the Lord God and that it will be God that return to smite the nations. So will it be Yeshua or will it be God?

The proper answer is that it will be God who will do these things through his creation. Just as God led the house of Israel out of Egypt through Moses his profit, he will also smash these nations like clay pots and kill the wicked in order to bring his people out of the nations of the world just like he brought his people out of Egypt through his profit Yeshua. Listen closely to what is written in **first Corinthians chapter 15 verses 20 through 24 E9**

1Co 15:20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

1Co 15:21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

1Co 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

1Co 15:23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

1Co 15:24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.

But getting back to the point of the Spirit who brought down King Ahab... once again, we see our Father in heaven delegating authority over mankind amongst the sons of God who are his heavenly host. And by the way... How does one obtain the title “son of God”?

The very title itself “son of God” implies that you are created by God. No one who is not created by God can be called a son of God. And this is something else that the Bible teaches from the beginning of the book. And there’s another whole lesson in this that we could get into different times sake we need to keep moving forward here in Matthew chapter 22.

Getting back to the parable of the wedding feast, what does all of this have to do with the parable of the wedding feast? Well, number one who was telling us this parable of the wedding feast? Is it not someone who carries the title of “the Son of God”?

And what is this parable about? Is it not about the kingdom of heaven? And who is this King that is having such trouble getting people to come to the feast of his son’s wedding? Is this King not Yehovah the Elohim of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob who is preparing the wedding feast for his Son Yeshua?

Who are these people that Yehovah God is sending his servants to with an invitation? Think about that for just a moment. Who are these people that Yehovah God is sending his servants with this wedding invitation? Are these not the house of Israel? Are these not the Jews that our

Messiah is speaking of in this parable? And when the house of Israel was found not worthy of his invitation.... who did Yehovah then turned to, to invite to the wedding feast? Is it not the Gentiles who his servants went out into the roads to gather?

And let me ask you another question. Who attends a wedding without dressing up in honor of the bride and the groom? Who attends a wedding in their underwear? Who would mock the bride and the groom by showing up at a wedding and their underware?

Think about it... why do we dress up when we attend a wedding? Do we not dress up in honor of the bride and the groom? Do we not want to put our best foot forward in honor of the bride in the groom? And if someone disgraces the bride and the groom... would they not be thrown out of the wedding feast?

And so, what is this wedding garment all about? It's about reciprocation. If someone gives you an invitation to attend a wedding feast in honor of the bride and groom... you reciprocate by bringing gifts and dressing appropriately, do you not?

I would submit to you my friends that the wedding garment is a metaphor for obedience to the word of God. It is through our obedience that we show our love for our Father in heaven. **First John 5:3 (scrn 4)**

The Biblical Definition of The Love of God:

1Jn 5:2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

1Jn 5:3 **For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments.** And his commandments are not burdensome.

Is this what your Pastor is teaching?



According to our God breathed Scripture the biblical definition of the love of God is that we not only keep his commandments, but that his commandments are not burdensome to us. And listen to what else is written within **1st John chapter 2 (scrn 5)**

1Jn 2:4 **Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him,**

1Jn 2:5 but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:

1Jn 2:6 **whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked .**



I would submit to you that the man without a wedding garment was a man who did not have the law of God written across his heart. The man without a wedding garment was like someone beating on their chest calling our Messiah Lord, Lord while bragging about how they cast out demons in his name and how they prophesied in his name and how they did many mighty works in his name all the while being... lawless.

Let me ask you this my friends what covers your sin? What covers your nakedness? It is the word of God that covers your nakedness and your sin. Who is our Messiah? He is the word of God made flesh. And if that word of God is not covering you and your sin, then you are still poor wretched blind and naked. (scrn 6)

I Do Not Know Those Who Are Lawless!

Mat 7:21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, **but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.**

Mat 7:22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’

Mat 7:23 And then will I declare to them, ‘**I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.**’

Lawless = Iniquity G458 = illegality, that is, violation of law



The wedding garment is what covers your nakedness. It is a covering of your sin and why? Because it is without spot or blemish. Why does our Messiah say that he does not know these people who call him Lord Lord? Why does our Messiah say that he does not know these people who prophesied in his name? Why did our Messiah say that he does not

know these people who cast out demons in his name? Why did our Messiah say that he does not know these people who did many mighty works in his name? Because they did not have a wedding garment. They showed up to the wedding naked and sinful because they were lawless.

What does it mean to be lawless? To be lawless is to be without God. When does our Messiah tell us in Matthew chapter 7 verse 21? He tells us very clearly that you can call him Lord, Lord all you want... but that does not mean that you're getting into his Father's kingdom. Matthew chapter 7 verse 21 tells us very clearly that the only one who is getting into his Father's kingdom is the one who is doing the will of his Father.

But is this what the church is teaching today? How many modern-day Christians today do you suppose even know what the wedding garment is all about?

Those who are invited to the wedding feast are those Gentiles who have accepted Yeshua the Son of David the Son of Abraham as their Passover lamb. Those who are invited to the wedding are those who have agreed to pick up their crosses and to follow their Messiah and King back to the Father where they belong. Those who mock that invitation... those who disrespect that invitation... those who belittle that invitation... will ultimately be destroyed.

And I tell you the truth, there are many who have accepted the invitation, but have not RSVPed appropriately. There are many who have accepted the invitation but are not willing to reciprocate appropriately. There are many who want to accept the invitation but cannot bring themselves to stoop low enough to humble themselves and pick up the cross.

There are those who think that the God breathed words that we read in the Bible today can be played with.

Once again, my friends the wedding garment is indeed the word of God

written across the hearts of God's people just as God had promised in Jeremiah chapter 31 of the Old Testament, and again in Hebrews chapter 10 of the New Testament. If you are lawless... you are naked in the eyes of God. And your sin precedes you. Listen closely to what are Messiah tells the assembly at Laodicea in **Revelation chapter 3 verses 14 through 70 (scrn 7)**

To the Church in Laodicea

Rev 3:14 “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: ‘The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation.

Rev 3:15 “I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot!

Rev 3:16 So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.

Rev 3:17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.



The parable of the wedding feast has everything to do with the new heaven and the new earth, and the new Jerusalem being brought down from Yehovah God. And it is in this new Jerusalem that the chosen... the bride of the Lamb will reside in security and in peace walking with both the Father and the Son forevermore because they... just like their Messiah had become the word of God made flesh.

Yehovah God chose Abraham because Abraham obeyed his voice and kept his charge and his commandments and his statutes and his law even while living in... the abode of sin. Yehovah God chose Abraham because Yehovah God knew that Abraham loved Yehovah God. Our Father in heaven knew that Abraham truly did believe because Abraham proved

beyond the shadow of a doubt that he believed even to the point of sacrificing his own son at the commandment of God.

Who is it that today lives in the land of Ur? Who is it that today lives in the abode of sin? Who is it that today lives in a fallen Babylonian world? Who is it that God is looking for today?

It is written in Matthew chapter 22 verse 14 and I quote, “for many are called, but few are chosen. Many are called and few are chosen not and I repeat not... many are called and many are chosen.

Although many will be called, although many will be invited, only few will be chosen.

From the very beginning of the book in the book of Genesis all the way through to the book of Revelation we see Yehovah God dividing and electing, dividing and electing. And so too will it be on the great and terrible day of Yehovah... that our Father in heaven will divide the world from the elected.

Our Father in heaven scattered the house of Israel amongst the nations of the world so that they could have their nostrils filled with the sin that they craved. Our Father in heaven scattered the house of Israel amongst the nations of the world so that just like the prodigal son they could see what it's like to sleep among the pigs.

It is written... the times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man... by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead. And this is exactly why the resurrection is so vitally important to our faith.

Moving on to Matthew chapter 22 verses 15 through 22 where we find the wicked rabbinical Pharisees once again plotting about how to

entangle our Messiah in his own words...

I want us to notice in Matthew chapter 22 verse 16 that the Pharisees sent their disciples to our Messiah. And their disciples butter up our Messiah by saying “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances.”

And so here they are buttering him up in an attempt to entangle him in his words. And they asked him, “Tell us then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not.

But in verse 18 because our Messiah was aware of their malice... he replies “Why put me to the test you hypocrites?”

And so once again, let there be no mistake about it, our Messiah knew full well what they were trying to do, and he could see through their butter up job when they came to ask him this question. And once again our Messiah simply asks them “Whose faces on the coin?”, they replied that Caesar’s face was on the coin, and our Messiah replies and says “Then give to Caesar what is Caesar’s and give to God what is God’s.” And when they heard these words of wisdom it is written that they marveled which is the Greek word “thou-mad-zo” which means they admired and at the same time wondered.

And then we come to Matthew chapter 22 verses 23 through 33 where the Sadducees who did not believe in resurrection come to ask our Messiah a question in all of their great wisdom.

And they asked our Messiah about a man who had seven brothers and when the first man died she went to his brother, and then when that man died she went to his other brother and so on and so forth and so this woman had been married to all seven brothers. And the Sadducees asked our Messiah in the resurrection whose wife will she be?

But our Messiah answered them and said, “You are wrong because you know neither the Scripture nor the power of God. For in the resurrection, they neither marry nor are given in marriage but are like the angels in heaven.” And Yeshua reminds them, that his Father is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living.

And once again, before we get too far ahead of ourselves, we always remind ourselves that when we read the Scripture the very reason that we read the Scripture for ourselves is so that we can know exactly what it says and just as importantly what it does not say. Keeping that in mind, I would like to once again reiterate the fact that our Messiah says that the angels in heaven are not given in marriage.

What our Messiah does not say is that the angels in heaven do not procreate. You see, there is a difference between marriage and procreation. Even today many people who are not married procreate. To say that the angels cannot procreate and multiply is to assume something not said within the confines of Scripture.

We are never told that angels cannot procreate. We are simply told that the institution of marriage will not be instituted after we are resurrected. Once again... do not let them lie to you, and do not let them lead you astray by adding to the word of God or taking away from the word of God. And there is a very important reason to remember this that we won't get into here today for time's sake. However... it's important to remember... that our Messiah never says anywhere in the New Testament that angels cannot procreate or multiply. That simply is not in the text.

And so, once again, what our Messiah was trying to get through to the Pharisees was the fact that all who believe and worship him will be amongst the living. But those who do not believe are still amongst the walking dead. What the Pharisees were not getting was that it was only through the resurrection... that you could return to God, and have everlasting life. And because they did not believe in life after death...

they had a difficult time accepting the resurrection of the dead through the first fruit of the new harvest who is our Messiah.

Once again, we are born into sin at birth because mankind sinned against God in the garden of Eden and was cursed with death. And it is because of the fall of mankind that man is born into sin and sin is indeed death. It is only when we go down into the watery grave of baptism following our Messiah down into death... that we can be raised up a new creature, a new creation of God once again clean and without sin in the eyes of God. It is at this moment in time when we willfully and intentionally make the decision to pick up that cross and to follow our Messiah back to our Father in heaven... that we once again do indeed walk in newness of life. And this is exactly why we are commanded, (not requested mind you), but commanded to be baptized. Baptism has to do with both the physical and the spiritual commitment to obey the spoken word of God that was given to our Messiah to give to us.

And there was indeed a difference of belief between the Sadducees and the Pharisees. Although the Sadducees had a hard time believing in resurrection, the Sadducees were also a more conservative group who insisted on the literal interpretation of the text of Scripture. The Pharisees on the other hand gave their oral tradition equal authority to the written word of Yehovah God which in of itself is a sin.

And so, the Sadducees were much closer to the truth than the Pharisees were but I think its fair to say that both of them had questions for our Messiah. I think that the main difference between the Sadducees and the Pharisees is that we do not see our Messiah calling the Sadducees children of the devil. But we do hear our Messiah calling the rabbinical Pharisees children of the devil. And so, the biblical narrative certainly does cast light on the fact that there were differences between the Sadducees and the Pharisees.

In fact, the apostle Paul used the theological differences between the Pharisees and the Sadducees to escape being arrested in Jerusalem. And

this all begins in Acts chapter 21 when Paul comes to Jerusalem to visit James and the elders and James tells the apostle Paul that the Jews who believe in the Messiah were told that Paul was preaching and teaching against the law and against circumcision. So, James and the elders devise a plan to have Paul take four men who were under a Nazirite vow to the temple and pay for their sacrifices so that everyone would know that there was nothing in what they had been told about Paul and that Paul always lived in obedience of the law. And you can read that in Acts chapter 21 verse 24.

So, the apostle Paul takes these four men who were under a Nazirite vow to the temple and he pays for their sacrifices so that they can shave their heads and this is where the Jews find him and try to arrest him in Acts chapter 21.

And so, Paul is brought before the Sanhedrin, and knowing that some of the Sanhedrin were Pharisees and some were Sadducees Paul tells them that he was arrested because of the resurrection of the dead. And it was this question of the resurrection of the dead that caused a great divide between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and it was actually a Roman commander who sent in troops to rescue the apostle Paul from the violence of the Sadducees and the Pharisees. And so, this question of the resurrection within the Sanhedrin creates enough confusion and chaos for Paul to escape.

And so, I don't want to go too deep down the rabbit hole concerning the differences between the Sadducees and the Pharisees, but there was a stark difference between the two and although they worked together and were both part of this man-made court system called the "Sanhedrin", the Sadducees were much more attentive to the Scripture than the Rabbinical Pharisees were.

Which brings us to Matthew chapter 22 verses 34 through 40 where the Sadducees and the Pharisees joined together, and they send a lawyer to ask Yeshua a question in order to once again test him. And what does the

lawyer ask him? He asks our Messiah which is the greatest commandment in the law.

Now my friends, if you have not read the beginning of the Bible, then you do not know which is the greatest commandment in the law. Because the greatest commandment in the law is given in the Torah not in the New Testament. And our Messiah quotes directly from Deuteronomy chapter 6 verses four and five which is known in Jewish circles as the Shema. Let's read that very quickly **Deuteronomy chapter 6 verses four through nine: E6**

Deu 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Deu 6:5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deu 6:6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

Deu 6:7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Deu 6:8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

Deu 6:9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Once again, our Messiah was teaching the Torah. Time and time again we see our Messiah teaching the Torah, the spoken word of his Father. The very word that he became in the flesh. But once again, most modern-day Christians are completely oblivious to what it was that our Messiah even became in the flesh.

And so once again, here we have our Messiah teaching the Torah to the Sadducees and the Pharisees and this seems to be the one and only thing that they both agree on. What I find extremely ironic here is that the Sadducees and the Pharisees both believed that God was one, but they didn't believe enough to obey him and keep his commandments. Once again, it takes more than just belief to get into his kingdom. It is written

that even the demons believe. But this does not mean that they are going to gain entrance into his kingdom. The key to the kingdom is understanding the biblical definition of faith and the fact that faith without works is dead. Just as James the head of the Jerusalem Council and the half-brother of our Messiah tells us in the book of James chapter 2. If you have a faith that has no works, then what you have is dead faith. For just as the body apart from the spirit is dead... so too faith apart from works is dead. That's James chapter 2 verse 26 for those of you who have never read your Bible before.

Which brings us down to Matthew chapter 22 verses 41 through 46 which is another question that our Messiah asks the Pharisees that they could not answer. And this is extremely astounding to me.

In Matthew chapter 22 verse 42 our Messiah asks the Pharisees what they think about the Messiah. Yeshua asks the Pharisees "Whose son is the Messiah?" And the Pharisees answer him and say "The son of David."

And our Messiah says to them, "how is it then that David in the spirit calls him Lord saying "the Lord said to my Lord sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet? If then David calls him "Lord" how is he his son?"

And no one was able to answer him a word.

Now my friends, once again, just like the answers to all of our Messiah's questions... you can find these answers in the Torah, the writings of the prophets, and the Psalms which is also known as your Old Testament.

And so, the question is if David calls him Lord, then how can he be the son of David? Do we know how? Let me show you how if you don't already know so that you can be a little smarter than the rabbinical Pharisees of our Messiah's time. Let's turn to **second Samuel chapter 7 verses 12 through 16 E7**

2Sa 7:12 When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

2Sa 7:13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

2Sa 7:14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men,

2Sa 7:15 but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you.

2Sa 7:16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

Once again, right here in second Samuel chapter 7 verse 14 we see the answer to our Messiah's question in Matthew chapter 22.

Yehovah God clearly promises David that when David dies Yehovah God is going to create from his body his Son who will establish a house for Yehovah God's name. And Yehovah God tells David that he will establish the throne of his Sons kingdom forever. And what else does Yehovah God promise David? If

In verse 14 Yehovah God promises David that Yehovah God himself will be to David's Son a Father... and that David Son would be a Son to him (God). And right there is your answer to our Messiah's question.

Technically speaking, Yehovah created Yeshua from the body of David his faithful servant. Yeshua is indeed the Son of David just as the first sentence of the New Testament proclaims. But... Yehovah God has pointed to the Son of David as being his own son just like Jacob pointed to Ephraim and Manasseh Joseph sons and called them his own sons.

Technically speaking our Messiah is no longer the Son of David because Yehovah has pointed to him as his own Son. But make no mistake about it... even our Messiah tells us very clearly in his own red-letter words that he is indeed the descendent of David. **Revelation chapter 22 verse 16 (scrn 8)**

Rev 22:16 I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify these things to you over the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the bright and Morning Star.



Once again, our Messiah was indeed a man who was created by Yehovah God from the body of David not says I... but says your God breathed Scripture. And for those of you who do not think that your Messiah was a man I would encourage you to go back and read the book for yourself. (scrn 9)

David Shall Never Lack A Man To Sit On The Throne of Israel!

Jer 33:17 “For thus says the LORD: **David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel,**
Jer 33:18 **and the Levitical priests shall never lack a man in my presence to offer burnt offerings, to burn grain offerings, and to make sacrifices forever.”**

Yeshua uses the phrase "Son of Man" over 83 times in the new Testament to describe himself!



(scrn 10)

1Ti 2:5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, **the man Christ Jesus**,
1Ti 2:6 who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.



(scrn 11)

Act 17:30 The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,
Act 17:31 because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness **by a man whom he has appointed;** and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”



And we could go on all day concerning this Bible truth, but I digress... for the moment.

In the end, what we see here in Matthew chapter 22 is once again a Torah teaching Messiah that came to teach the truth of his Father's word to a godless and lawless fallen world.

And what is extremely important for us to always remember is who it was that were the archenemies of our Messiah. It wasn't the pagans who had him crucified. It wasn't the atheist who had him crucified. It was the men who were standing behind the pulpits of his time who were his arch enemies. It was the men who were proclaiming to be men of God. It was the rabbinical Pharisees who ran the temple, the church... that were the archenemies of our Messiah. And it was these same men who had him crucified because of their willful and intentional disobedience.

Look around you my friends, look at these denominational empires around the world. Put on the full armor of God so that you may have the eyes to see in the ears to hear. Pick up the book and feed on the bread of

life and drink the water of life that flows freely from the God breathed Scriptures that you hold in your very hands. Don't forsake them. Don't take them for granted. And don't read just half of the book. Don't let someone else tell you what it says. And above all my hope and my prayer is that you will not be found without... a wedding garment.

And with all that information under our belts this morning, I will do as I always do and I will ask that everyone within the sound of my voice would please, please take what you have heard here this morning to your own prayer closet. Bow your head and bend your knee, and face the holy promised land of Jerusalem, and ask in the name of Yeshua Hamashiach if what you have heard here today be true or not.

Ask, seek, and knock on his door and on his door alone in the proper door will be opened to you. And if you will do that, and if you will stay the course to the end... You and I will surely walk through the gates of his soon coming kingdom together.