

ON THE LEVEL:
WHAT IS THE BASELINE
FOR TRUTH

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ALL DUE
RESPECT...

Matthew 22:23
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That same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to him with a question. “Teacher,” they said, “Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for him. Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother. The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh. Finally, the woman died. Now then, at the resurrection,

whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?” Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven. But about the resurrection of the dead—have you not read what God said to you, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’?

“He is not the God of the dead but of the living.” When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at his teaching.

Matthew 22:23-33

Jesus replied, “You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.”

Matthew 22:29

We believe the Scriptures are relevant to every dimension of human life.

We believe the Scriptures are both inspired and authoritative.

It's not enough to know what the Scriptures say, we need to know what they mean.

The Sadducees show you can know a verse and miss the Scriptures.

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. 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. However, if a man does not want to marry his brother's wife, she shall go to the elders at the town gate and say, "My husband's brother

refuses to carry on his brother's name in Israel. He will not fulfill the duty of a brother-in-law to me." Then the elders of his town shall summon him and talk to him. If he persists in saying, "I do not want to marry her," his brother's widow shall go up to him in the presence of the elders, take off one of his sandals, spit in his face and say, "This is what is done to the man who will not build up his brother's family line." That man's line shall be known in Israel as The Family of the Unsandaled.

Deuteronomy 25:5-9

WHAT IS THE POINT
OF THE PASSAGE?

The point of this passage isn't about property rights, it's about carrying on a name.

Why is carrying on a name important?

Because every person matters to God.

Then Paul, knowing that some of them were Sadducees and the others Pharisees, called out in the Sanhedrin, “My brothers, I am a Pharisee, descended from Pharisees. I stand on trial because of the hope of the resurrection of the dead.” When he said this, a dispute broke out between the Pharisees and the Sadducees, and the assembly was divided. (The Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, and that there are neither angels nor spirits, but the Pharisees believe all these things.)

Acts 23:6-8

WHERE DOES OUR
POSITION TAKE US?

If we follow a worldview through to the end, what are the practical implications?

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up." When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush,

“Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.” “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” 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.

Exodus 3:1-6

The Sadducees start their argument with “Moses told us.”

Jesus starts his conversation with “Have you not read what God said to you?”

The Scriptures are not primarily a manual for ethical living.

The Scriptures are a picture of who God is.

Every worldview debate starts with
“Where do you stand on this?”

For those of us who are followers of
Jesus, every conversation should lead to
“Who do you believe God to be?”

Who is God?

What does God require of us?

What is God capable of?

The world isn't hungry for more rhetoric; the world is hungry for resurrection.