

The Spirit Under Fire, part 2

Matthew 22:23-33

²³ On that day *some* Sadducees (who say there is no resurrection) came to Jesus and questioned Him, ²⁴ asking, “Teacher, Moses said, ‘If a man dies having no children, his brother as next of kin shall marry his wife, and raise up children for his brother.’ ²⁵ Now there were seven brothers with us; and the first married and died, and having no children left his wife to his brother; ²⁶ so also the second, and the third, down to the seventh. ²⁷ Last of all, the woman died. ²⁸ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife of the seven will she be? For they all had *married* her.”

²⁹ But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures nor the power of God. ³⁰ For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. ³¹ But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God: ³² ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.” ³³ When the crowds heard *this*, they were astonished at His teaching.

We live in a religious environment where the Scriptures are abundant, but the power of God is not well-understood, and is rarely seen.

Because they did not know God, they confined the power of God to the Scriptures, and ceased to understand th.

Many today, like the Sadducees, have erroneously built doctrines on speculations, and ceased to know the powerful God personally.

Jesus walked in integrity, taught with accuracy, spoke with authority, loved with intensity, healed indiscriminately, prayed passionately, and obeyed the Father faultlessly.

If we give in to the religious trend of this age, we will lazily ascribe greatness only to Jesus, and go back to living as ordinary men and women.

John 3:6

⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

What did Jesus say? God will not be the God of the dead, but of the Living!

Valley of dry bones

Habakkuk 3:2

² Lord, I have heard the report about You *and* I fear. O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years, In the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy.

Psalms 80:17-18

¹⁷ Let Your hand be upon the man of Your right hand, Upon the son of man whom You made strong for Yourself.
¹⁸ Then we shall not turn back from You; Revive us, and we will call upon Your name.

“Isn’t there a real danger in focusing on power over doctrine?”

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

² And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. ² For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. ³ I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, ⁴ and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive

words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

They are not meant to exist apart from one another! There is also real danger is in having doctrine without power.

The foundation was sure, and their faith rested on the display of power that proved the validity of the doctrine.

Jesus and the Pharisees- "The Chosen" 1:54- 5:05

<https://www.facebook.com/183980105728550/videos/2574047019587394/>

1 John 4:17

¹⁷ By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world.

1 John 2:6

⁶ the one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked.

Because Jesus has ascended to the right hand of the Father, the Spirit is given to us now freely by faith.

In experience, there is a price for us to "pay" in faith to know God's power in reality.

Acts 5:32

³² And we are witnesses of these things; and so *is* the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him."

Faith and works are inseparable- if we are walking in faith, works will follow, and God wants to show His power through our acts of faith!

Psalm 142:7

⁷ "Bring my soul out of prison, So that I may give thanks to Your name; The righteous will surround me, For You will deal bountifully with me."