

Sermon Notes

Providence Community Church

11-22-15 Ken Carlton

Title: STUPIDITY OF SKEPTICISM

Main Text: Mat 22:23-33

Sermon Description: Today's message finds its structure here in Mat 22 as well as a parallel encounter between John the Baptist and the Sadducees in Mat 3. In both texts, corruption of unbelieving intellectual commitments is highlighted. The foundation and fallout of the worldly mind is on display in these interactions. In Jesus' day, as in ours, the unbeliever displays a tragic irony in His presuppositions. In most cases he remains committed to and insists on a position of hopeless, despairing, nihilism when all that stands in his way is sinful pride blinding him to the eternal, astonishing, beautiful truth. The Sadducees were the deists, skeptics, and proto-naturalistic materialists of their day. Their rejection of Jesus in the face of all evidence to the contrary is a powerfully sobering reminder that salvation of the dead sinner is by the sovereign grace of God alone!

Heading: ROOTS OF CORRUPT THINKING (Typified by the Sadducees)...

1. IGNORANCE OF THE WORD OF GOD

- a. Levirate marriage (Dt. 25:5-10, Rth 4, Rev 7) b. Patriarchs (Ex 3:6, Gen 50:22-26) c. Parallels (Mt 3:7-12)

2. IGNORANCE OF THE POWER OF GOD

- a. Faux power b. Wishful ignorance (Mt 21:14, 22:33) c. Rational response (Rev 4:11,7:12,11:17,12:10,19:1)

3. IGNORANCE OF THE JUSTICE OF GOD

- a. Punishments (Mt 23, 25:31-46) b. Promises (Heb 6,11:13-16,39-40) c. No neutrality (Acts 4:1-3,5:17-18)

Close: The Sadducees of Matthew remind us of the weight of the revelation of Jesus Christ. To deny the gospel is to demonstrate its authority and veracity with your own destruction. May we cling to the cross all the tighter in thankfulness for the grace that awakened our skeptical sinful hearts unto repentance and faith!

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:
Providential marriage	Resurrection & patriarchs	Skeptics deserve	Sadducee problem	Power of God	Justice
Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:
Ruth 4	Gen 50:22-26	Mt 3:7-12	Mt 22:23-33	Rev 4:11,7:12,11:17	Mt 25:31-46

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Further Study' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: Mt 22:34-40 ...*Greatest commandment...*