

PARABLE OF THE WEDDING BANQUET

The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son...

MATTHEW 22:1-14

- Temple = Sadducees Synagogue = Pharisees
- The Parable is about what the Kingdom of Heaven is like
- The invited guests (aristocrats) are indifferent to the king's invitation, so they don't come
- The king replaces them with random common folk
- An improperly dressed replacement guest is bound and thrown out into an evil darkness
- The moral: "For many are invited, but few are chosen"

THE HERODIANS JOIN IN THE DEBATE



- Matt. 22:15 – 22
- Mark 12:13 – 17
- No one really knows who the Herodians were
- They try to entice Christ to speak His mind, openly
- Christ knows that these snakes are trying to get Him to say something against the Emperor

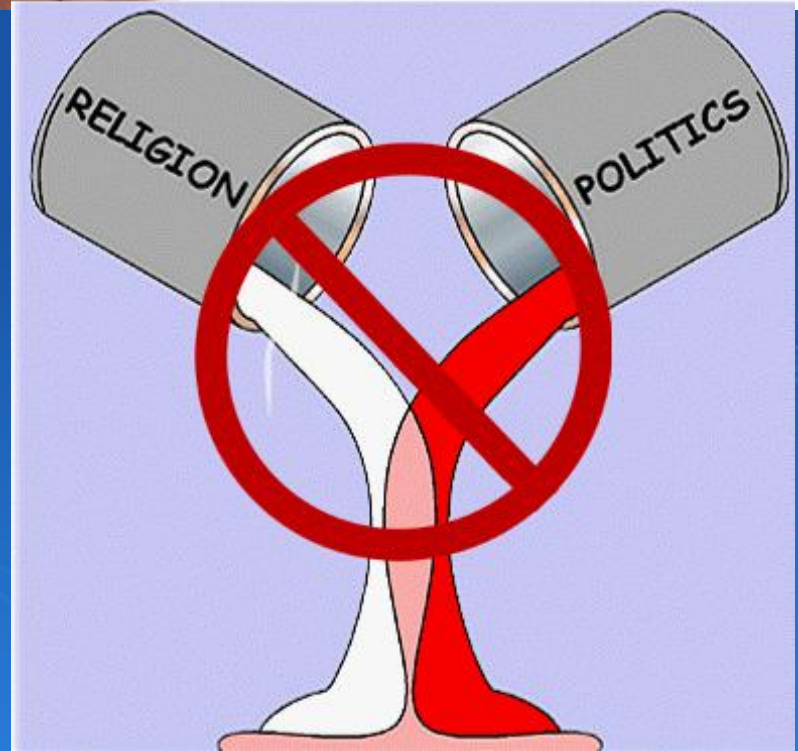
IS IT PERMITTED TO PAY TAXES TO THE ROMANS?

- Is it “lawful”, “legal” ?
- Always is referring to the Law of Moses or to Jewish Law (Tradition)
- ***Tributum soli*** = a tax on produce from the field
- ***Tributum capitis*** = an annual tax on property
- Pharisees declared it a sin to pay the tax
- Jews revolted on more than one occasion because of the tax



- A denarius was not a large amount of money
- The Caesar was considered divine, so Jews saw the coin as having a graven image
- Jesus's statement is a kind of proverb
- Some see paying taxes a matter of religious faith
- Yeshua makes the matter trivial and unimportant
- Christ never criticizes the Roman government

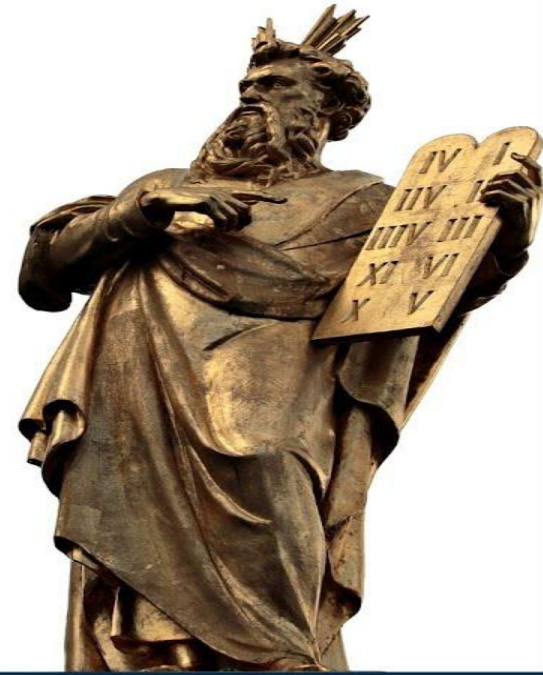
“Give unto Caesar that which is Caesar’s...”





- The Bible doesn't answer every question we have, nor does it operate like an encyclopedia.
- Many times there is no simple “yes” or “no” answers
- Romans 13:1 – 8
- God allows preferences, but demands obedience on moral matters
- We are to obey whomever rules and taxes us

DO CHRISTIANS HAVE TO OBEY **ALL** LAWS OF THE LAND?



- When there is conflict, give to the government what belongs to the government
- However on God-ordained moral issues, Believers must never back down
- Gay marriage, for example, cannot be accepted
- Yet, we can approach moral sinners with God's love, with Jesus as our example, and not hate them

RESURRECTION VS. AFTERLIFE

- Sadducees come at Jesus with a touchy subject: resurrection
- Sadducees did NOT believe in resurrection so they were insincere
- Matthew 22:23 -32
- Mark 12:18 – 27
- The Jews didn't have a definite doctrine about afterlife



Whose wife will she be?



DO WE BECOME **ANGELS** AFTER WE DIE?



- The question tied Levirate marriage to the resurrection
- ***Yibbum*** was nearly extinct by Yeshua's day
- Sadducees wanted to poke fun at the idea of resurrection
- No marrying because the resurrected will be like the angels
- Does NOT say we become angels!
- The statement about angels is in the context of marrying



ANGELS

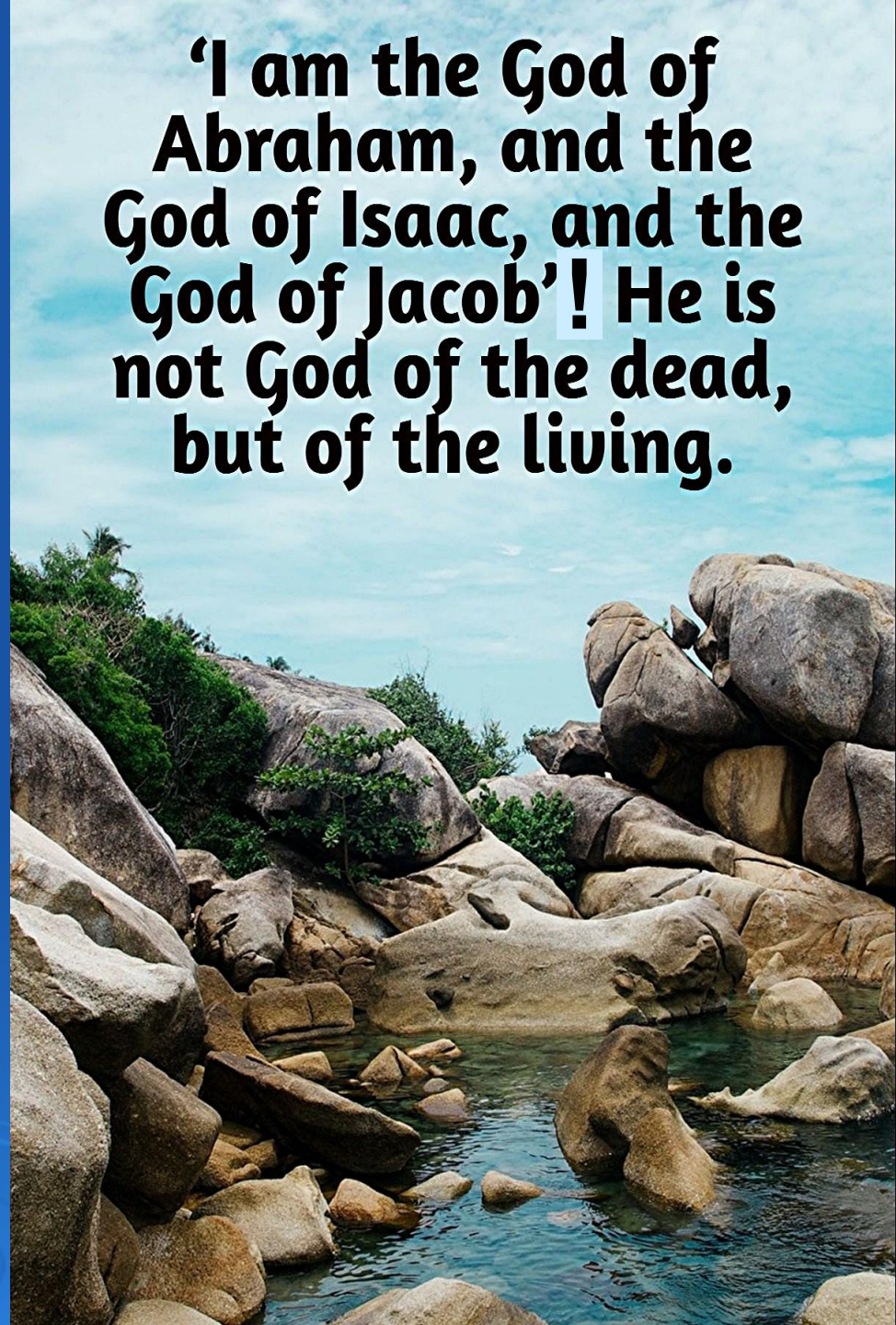
What does
the Bible
say?

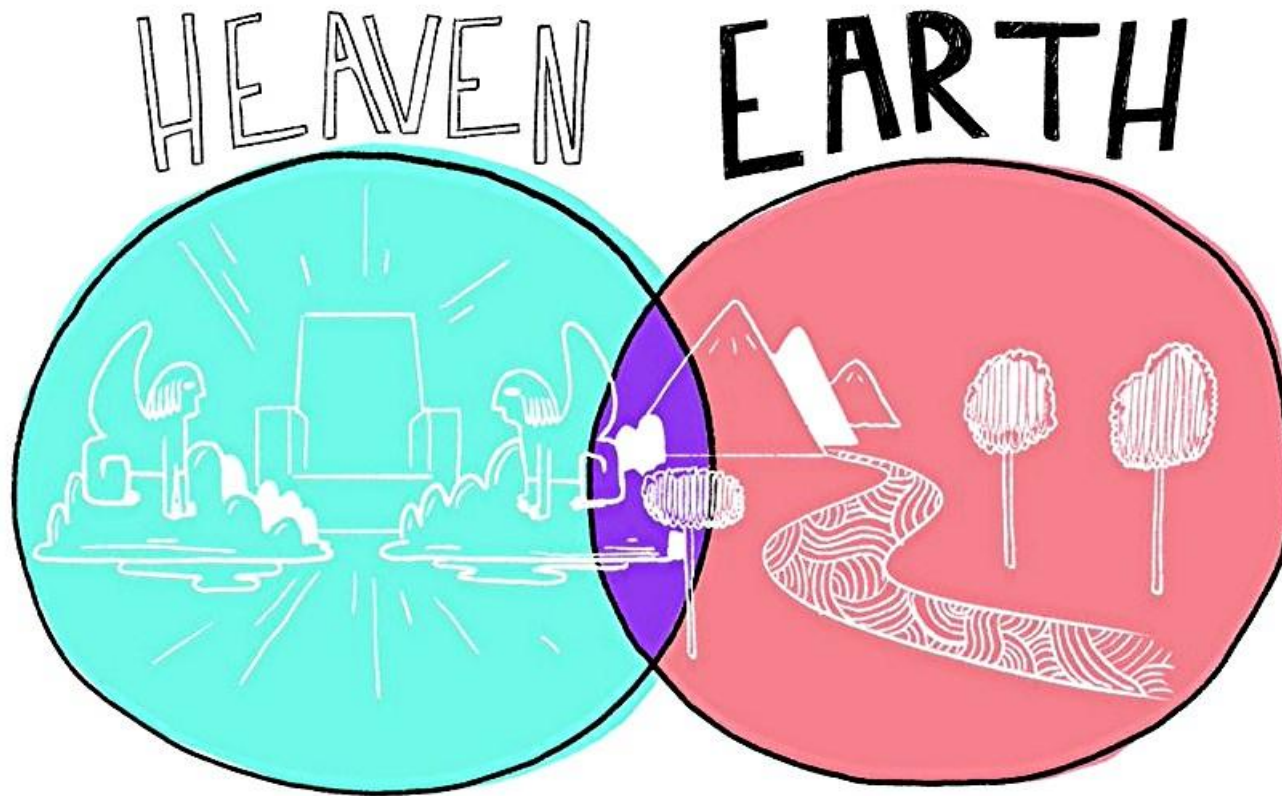
- The Bible has little info on Angels
- ***Nephillim*** = offspring of fallen angels
- Original purpose of marriage was procreation and a family to raise the children
- After the resurrection, when we're immortal, what use is there for marriage?
- What about the immense value of love and relationship?



- So what did Christ mean by that statement about the Patriarchs?
- I WAS = Not God of the dead
- I AM = The God of the living
- Can only be in the context of afterlife and not of the resurrection (it hasn't happened yet!)
- Matthew 19: 3 – 8
- The Fall brought death and therefore reproduction was necessary to re-populate

'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.





- Upon the re-creation of Revelation, the boundaries and barriers between Heaven and Earth will end
- The 2 habitats merge as one because no more can mankind's sin pollute the purest holiness of God
- Revelation 21:1 - 5