



Pray

- Pray for God to open your heart and mind before you begin. Confess sins.



Scripture

- Read Matthew 22:23-33. Also read the background article at the end of this study about the Sadducees from *Easton's Bible Dictionary*.
- What are the main points Jesus made in his response?

- Read the following verses on God's Word and jot down some notes.
 - Hebrews 4:12
 - Isaiah 55:10-11
 - Isaiah 45:23
 - Matthew 24:35
 - 1 Peter 1:22-25

- One problem was that the Sadducees did not know God's word. Read the following verses about the different ways you can get into the Scriptures. Jot down notes for each reference.
- **Hear**
 - Romans 10:17
- **Read**
 - Deuteronomy 17:9
- **Study**
 - Acts 17:11
 - Ezra 7:10
- **Memorize**
 - Psalm 119:9,11
- **Meditate**
 - Joshua 1:8
 - Psalm 1:1-2
- It is healthy to be involved in all five of these intakes of God's word. Pick one area you would like to grow in and write down what you will do make this aspect a part of your life. Write out what you will do specifically (when, where, how much, etc).

- Read the following verses on the power of God. Write out notes beside each reference about the power of God and how you can have more of it in your life.
 - 2 Timothy 1:7
 - Colossians 1:28-29
 - Philippians 3:7-14
 - Romans 6:5-14

SADDUCEES — The origin of this Jewish sect cannot definitely be traced. It was probably the outcome of the influence of Grecian customs and philosophy during the period of Greek domination. The first time they are met with is in connection with John the Baptist's ministry. They came out to him when on the banks of the Jordan, and he said to them, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" The next time they are spoken of they are represented as coming to our Lord tempting him. He calls them "hypocrites" and "a wicked and adulterous generation" (Matt. 16:1–4 ; 22:23). The only reference to them in the Gospels of Mark (12:18–27) and Luke (20:27–38) is their attempting to ridicule the doctrine of the resurrection, which they denied, as they also denied the existence of angels. They are never mentioned in John's Gospel. There were many Sadducees among the "elders" of the Sanhedrin. They seem, indeed, to have been as numerous as the Pharisees (Acts 23:6). They showed their hatred of Jesus in taking part in his condemnation (Matt. 16:21 ; 26:1–3 , 59 ; Mark 8:31 ; 15:1 ; Luke 9:22 ; 22:66). They endeavored to prohibit the apostles from preaching the resurrection of Christ (Acts 2:24 , 31 , 32 ; 4:1 , 2 ; 5:17 , 24–28). They were the deists or skeptics of that age. They do not appear as a separate sect after the destruction of Jerusalem.

Easton's Bible Dictionary