

November 1 Answers

- 1) The Pharisees and Sadducees had the **privilege** of talking face-to-face with the incarnate Son of God, yet they had no desire to **learn** from Him! Instead, they asked difficult questions, hoping to catch Him in something he said. Jesus' response shows us how to handle such situations. First, He wasn't afraid to **expose** their true motive ("Why put me to the test, you hypocrites?"). Second, He confronted them with their lack of **insight** into God's Word and power ("You know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God"). Third, He demonstrated how to draw proper **inferences** from the clear statements of Scripture ("He is not the God of the dead, but of the living"). Fourth, He showed how to reason correctly about the **implications** of God's power ("For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven"). Fifth, He reminded them that the Law is all about **love**, and if they didn't think of love when they thought about the Law, then they didn't understand it ("On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets"). Finally, He asked a pointed question of His own, for often the best way to handle a skeptic is to **confront** them with the inconsistencies in their worldview ('How is it that David, in the Spirit, calls his son, the Messiah, **Lord**?'). Jesus not only answered all their questions flawlessly, but ended by asking them the most important question of all: "What do you think about the Christ?" Even as He rebuked them for their unbiblical thinking and ungodly attitude, He was **reaching** out to them with the truth!