

A SERIES OF DEVOTIONS BASED UPON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

SPARROWS AND HAIRS ON YOUR HEAD

Luke 12:6-7 “Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.”

The typical person has approximately 100,000 hairs on their head. Daily 50 to 100 of these hairs fall out. However, in a healthy head each hair that falls out is replaced by the growth of a new one.

A sparrow is said to be the most abundant bird in the world. It is fascinating to watch a flock of sparrows swarm over a field. For the most part, however, few people pay much attention to them. In fact, many consider them a nuisance. God however created them and daily watches over them providing for their life and well-being. By the way, they are important in the life cycle. They eat countless insects daily.

The insignificant and what we human beings give little thought to, God watches over and devotes His providential care and concern. You are His highest, most important, His number one creation. If God cares for the things of His creation we give little or no thought to, Jesus assures you here in Luke 12:6-7 you are of greater value to Him than these.

Matthew 6:25-33 records a much more detailed account of Jesus teaching regarding God’s providential care. Jesus taught these words to counter your worries, fears and anxieties. He taught, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you,

O you of little faith? Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

God provides all you need to support your body, mind soul and spirit! The Holy Spirit, through the words of the Holy Scriptures and the power of the Sacraments strengthens your faith to trust your heavenly Father for everything. Because of His omniscience (all-knowing), and omnipotence (all-power), and out of His unconditional love you have nothing to be anxious about.

Prayer: Lord, I believe, help my unbelief. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Consider how the birds above Feed day by day with carefree ease—
Does God not keep them in His love? Are we not worth much more than these?

The lilies grow, they do not toil; How fair is their fragility—
If God clothes these, which quickly spoil, Will He not clothe both you and me?

Set not your heart on food or drink, Nor be weighed down by worldly care;
About such things the godless think, Yet never thank the Lord in prayer.

Be on your guard against all greed, For life is more than what we own.
Our Father knows our ev'ry need Before our needs to us are known.

Be not afraid to suffer loss Of all the things for which you pray,
For He who faced for you the cross Will give you strength to live each day.

Seek first God's reign, His boundless grace, His holy name in all you do:
Christ first and last in ev'ry place; All else will then be given you.

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