

## **What's in the tiny box God? A-Sparrow?**

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So as of late I have been reading random scriptures and came across a strange one the other day about sparrows-

Matthews 10:29 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.

Luke: 12:6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God?

Matthew 10:31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

So I was on a sparrow roll so I thought I would look up more information on them. Sparrows in the Hebrew refer to "a small bird". They were sold alive at the open markets during that time period.

Then for a tasty treat on your way home- you could buy sparrows on a spit- kind of like our rotisserie chickens. The going price- 2 for a farthing- the value of 1/8<sup>th</sup> of a penny per sparrow OR 5 sparrows for 2 farthings- the value of again 1/8<sup>th</sup> of a penny and the 5<sup>th</sup> sparrow was thrown in for free. That was their marketing tool.

Then I read in Psalm 102 about David. He was going through a lonely time in his life. You know you have been there. You are in a crowd but yet you are alone. You smile through you are crying inside. You are surrounded by people but can't call a one of them in the middle of the night. That is how David felt. He looked out and saw a sparrow and said "I watch and I am a sparrow alone on the rooftop".

Sparrows are loners. They do not hang out in groups. Don't tend to be the confetti throwers at the party, the horn blowers, and the ooh and aww makers.

But then I keep going back to that poor fifth sparrow that was thrown in for the marketing tool. What was his value? He was thrown in for free? He didn't even have a price tag. What if that 5<sup>th</sup> sparrow was me? Was that my value?

Is that how you feel? Maybe you are going through a season of aloneness, a time of financial difficulty, a time of misunderstanding, maybe a time of separation from a spouse, or even a divorce. Maybe your friends that should be standing by your side have joined the sidelines to throw in their opinions as you turn round and round again on the spiritual rotisserie fire that you feel will be the end of you.

You feel like you must be that fifth sparrow. That this scripture has got to be about you. How can you have value when you were just thrown in for the deal? How can He care? How can he know the pains that keep you up at night, the questions that you alone face, the way you feel in your very inner core?

How does he feel? I will tell you how he feels about you.

-He has plans to prosper you.

-You are mighty through the pulling down of strongholds

-You are more than a conqueror through Him.

- He formed you in your mother's womb.

-He sought you out.

-He shields you even as the apple of his eye.

-He holds you in the hollow of his hand.

-He knows your coming in and your going out.

I love the last part of Matthew 10:29- "and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father." He is at every one of their funerals.

I can just see it. He hears that one of his friends has become ill. That they don't have much time left. He gets another message from Mary- come quick master. Martha insists by another messenger- get here now. If you really love him you will come.

Jesus quietly ignores the messengers, the pleas, and goes to gather a tiny box. For today one of his own has fallen. One of no value to others- but one of value to him. Today a fifth sparrow has fallen. With gentle hands he picks him up, he brushes back the waxy feathers, and closes the tiny beak again. He then gently lays him in the little box. For your see His very closest friends were bidding him to come- but he had an important obligation- he was tending to the fifth sparrow. Lazarus would arise in time. But right now the master had time for the fallen sparrow.

Where are you today? How are you feeling? Maybe you are in a holding period, a period of change, or a period of hurt. The Lord is calling out to you today and letting you know- You are HIS. He sees you. He is caring for you. He will uphold you- even in his right hand of power. Rise up today! You are not alone, and you are not forsaken.

I cry as I type today because I have been there before. I have felt alone. I have felt battle-torn and ragged. I have had times when I couldn't get up. But in those times I knew the Master had me in his hands. That all I had to do was stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.

Today arise. Breathe him in. The fifth sparrow had so much value to the master that the business of the world stopped. He will tend to you today. You are his!