

His Eye Is On The Sparrow

"Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows fall?

Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home? When Jesus is my portion, my constant Friend is He: His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

"'Let not your heart be troubled,' His tender words I hear, and resting on His goodness, I lose my doubt and fear.

Tho' by the path He leadeth, but one step I may see:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

"Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise, when songs give way to sighing, and hope within me dies, I draw the closer to Him; from care He sets me free: His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

"I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free; His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me."

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

"The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble, and He knows those who trust in Him." - Nahum 1:7

"In the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, until these calamities pass by. I will cry to God who performs all things for me." - Psalm 57:1,2

Civilla Martin paid a visit in 1904 to a bedridden Christian friend. She asked the woman if she was ever discouraged because of her physical condition. Her answer came quickly: "Mrs. Martin, how can I be discouraged when my heavenly Father watches over each little sparrow and I know He loves and cares for me?" Civilla wrote the text for "His Eye is on the Sparrow" within a few minutes of this woman's testimony, and this precious hymn has been a source of great encouragement to believers ever since.

The Lord used the sparrow - a bird with little value - to teach a profound truth: Each person is significant in God's eyes, and He is concerned with every detail of our lives. The sparrow is a tiny bird, but the Bible also speaks of the mighty eagle to teach us another important truth: "Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength; they will soar like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31).

You have probably heard of an amazing woman named Corrie Ten Boom, who survived the Holocaust after trying to hide Jews in their home in Nazi Germany. "The Hiding Place" is a powerful book and movie describing her experiences, but both are very disturbing to take in.

Corrie and her sister Betsy ended up in a concentration camp, where they were treated in every humiliating way possible along with the many Jews who were headed for the gas chambers. God spared Corrie with her faith intact, and she emerged from that heart-wrenching experience with a fount of wisdom that she shared so beautifully for the rest of her long life. She had lost loved ones and possessions, but nothing could rob her of the confidence she had in the Lord's goodness and mercy toward her, and she was able eventually to forgive those who had treated her and her sister so shamefully.

I found some quotes by Corrie Ten Boom worth sharing:

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."

"When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer."

"Any concern too small to be turned into a prayer is too small to be made into a burden."

"Worry is a cycle of inefficient thoughts whirling around a center of fear."

"Let God's promises shine on your problems."

Psalm 56:3 says, "When I am afraid, I will trust in You." That is a simple thought that holds a lot of truth, and it has served me well over my lifetime. Raising 5 children gave me many opportunities to put problems and concerns in the Lord's hands and trust Him for the results. Most of the things we worry about never come to pass, so we are better off setting our attention on those things we know to be true today.

I will leave you with one more quote from Corrie that can help us all to take life one day at a time:

"Worrying is carrying tomorrow's load with today's strength - carrying two days at once. It is moving into tomorrow ahead of time. Worrying doesn't empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength."