



TODAY'S MESSAGE

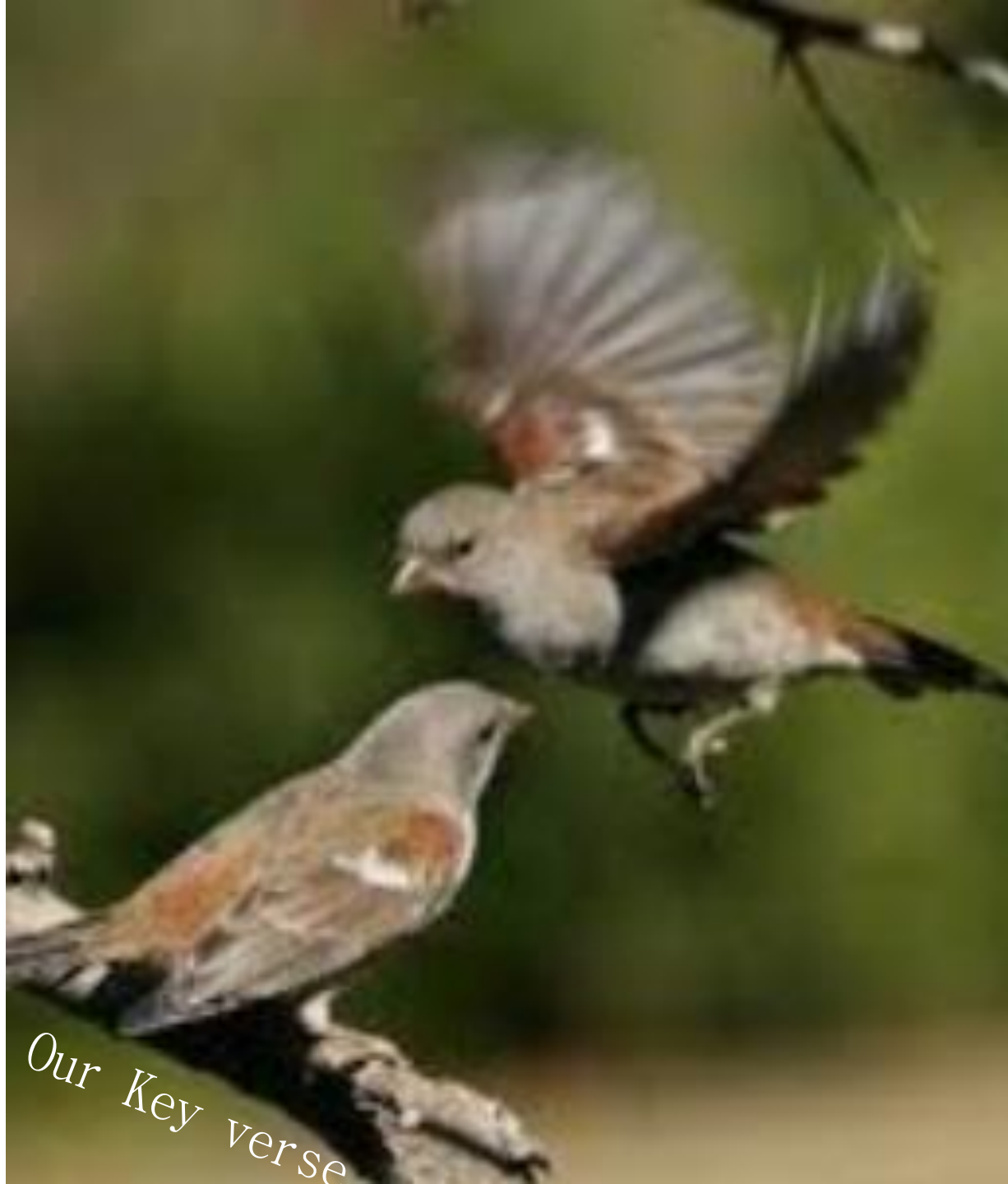
LUKE 12



“Aren’t five sparrows
sold for two
pennies? But God
does not forget even
one of them.

In fact, he even
counts every hair on
your head! So don’t
be afraid.

You are worth more
than many sparrows.
Luke 12:6-7 NIRV



Our Key verse

Jesus Gives Words of Warning and Hope

12 During that time a crowd of many thousands had gathered. There were so many people that they were stepping on one another.

Jesus spoke first to his disciples. "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees," he said. "They just pretend to be godly. ² Everything that is secret will be brought out into the open. Everything that is hidden will be uncovered. ³ What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight. What you have whispered to someone behind closed doors will be shouted from the rooftops.

BACKGROUND ...Who were Pharisees....?

After defeating the Greeks, a Jewish guy Judas Maccabaeus's established a new Jewish kingdom in the form of the priestly Hasmonean dynasty in 152 before Jesus—establishing priests as political as well as religious authorities.

The Pharisee ("separatist") party emerged largely out of the group of the scribes and sages of the time.

Hebrew and Aramaic *parush* or *parushi*, which means "one who is separated." It may refer to their separation from Gentiles, sources of ritual impurity or from irreligious Jews. They were religious and followed all rules and regulations in detail. Many lacked compassion and started to think they were more holy than other people!

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What does Jesus mean when he says

- **Everything that is secret will be brought out into the open.**
- DO we have hidden things that if uncovered would embarrass us?
- WHAT have we SAID in the dark that if people knew would embarrass us?
- WHAT have we WHISPERED to someone behind closed doors that would embarrass us?

EVERYTHING WILL BE REVEALED!!! ...

How do we feel about that?

Jesus says “BE SCARED!”

“My friends, listen to me. Don’t be afraid of those who kill the body but can’t do any more than that. I will show you whom you should be afraid of. Be afraid of the One who can kill the body and also has the power to throw you into hell. Yes, I tell you, be afraid of him.”

What do the words...Can’t do more than that...mean or refer to?

Jesus says “don’t be afraid!”

Aren’t five sparrows sold for two pennies?
But God does not forget even one of them.
In fact, he even counts every hair on your
head!

So don’t be afraid. You are worth more than
many sparrows.

**Is Jesus just incapable of
making up his mind?**

Jesus promises...

“What about someone who says in front of others that he knows me?

I tell you, the Son of Man will say that he knows that person in front of God’s angels.

But what about someone who says in front of others that he doesn’t know me?

I, the Son of Man, will say that I don’t know him in front of God’s angels.

What does this mean?

So what is next...

“The Story of the Rich Man

¹³ Someone in the crowd spoke to Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “tell my brother to divide the family property with me.”

¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Friend, who made me a judge or umpire between you?”

¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has.”

¹⁶ Then Jesus told them a story. He said, “A certain rich man’s land produced a good crop.

¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What should I do? I don’t have any place to store my crops.’

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my storerooms and build bigger ones. I will store all my grain and my other things in them. ¹⁹ I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of good things stored away for many years. Take life easy. Eat, drink and have a good time.”’

²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You foolish man! This very night I will take your life away from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹ “That is how it will be for anyone who stores things away for himself but is not rich in God’s eyes.”

Choose wisely!

Why tell this story next? Some people think they have
What is the core theme? to wait until the time is right.
When is the right time?

So what is next...

Do Not Worry

²² Then Jesus spoke to his disciples. He said, “I tell you, do not worry. Don’t worry about your life and what you will eat. And don’t worry about your body and what you will wear. ²³ There is more to life than eating. There are more important things for the body than clothes.

²⁴ “Think about the ravens. They don’t plant or gather crops. They don’t have any storerooms at all. But God feeds them. You are worth much more than birds!

²⁵ “Can you add even one hour to your life by worrying? ²⁶ You can’t do that very little thing. So why worry about the rest?

²⁷ “Think about how the lilies grow. They don’t work or make clothing. But here is what I tell you. Not even Solomon in all of his glory was dressed like one of those flowers. ²⁸ If that is how God dresses the wild grass, how much better will he dress you! After all, the grass is here only today. Tomorrow it is thrown into the fire. Your faith is so small!

²⁹ “Don’t spend time thinking about what you will eat or drink. Don’t worry about it.

³⁰ People who are ungodly run after all of those things. Your Father knows that you need them.

³¹ “But put God’s kingdom first. Then those other things will also be given to you.

Why say this next?

What can we do?

Trust \ Faith

Despite circumstances, right?

What is your greatest fear?

**What are you
doing about handing
that fear over to
God?**