

Good Morning Second Church,

I pray you are well. I sure missed being together yesterday! Given these strange and uncertain circumstances, we need encouragement from our Sovereign Savior. So starting today, I encourage you to check your email daily for words of comfort and assurance from God's Word to strengthen and encourage you and to equip you to strengthen and encourage others. When you see the subject line **Wisdom not Worry**, know that it's me. If these bless you, take moment to call one of our elderly who may not have email and share it with them. Blessings to you in Christ Jesus our Lord, dear Second Family.

Today's word comes from Matthew 10:29: Jesus says, "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

Surely it is a comfort to know not only that God is in control but also that we are of worth to Him. He orchestrates everything that happens for our good and His glory. We call this God's good providence. Here's how the Heidelberg Catechism beautifully summarizes the truth of this verse.

- **What do you understand by the providence of God?** Providence is the almighty and ever present power of God by which He upholds as with His hand, heaven and earth and all creatures and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—all things, in fact, come to us not by chance from His Fatherly hand.
- **How does the knowledge of God's providence help us?** We can be **PATIENT** when things go against us, **THANKFUL** when things go well, and for the future we can have good **CONFIDENCE** in our faithful God and Father that nothing will separate us from his love. All creatures are so completely in His hand that without His will they can neither move nor be moved.

Don't worry, be wise.

Grateful,

Pastor Ben