

# Luke 12:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

## Analysis

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Jesus assures: 'But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.' The phrase 'hairs of your head are numbered' (Greek 'trikes tēs kephalēs pantes ērithmēntai,' τρίχες τῆς κεφαλῆς πάντες ἔριθμηνται, perfect tense) indicates God's comprehensive knowledge—He knows everything about us, even minutiae. If God tracks individual hairs, He certainly cares about our lives. The comparison to sparrows (v. 6)—worthless birds that God nonetheless provides for—argues from lesser to greater. We're 'of more value' (Greek 'diapherete,' διαφέρετε, differ, excel), therefore God surely cares for us. Fear dissolves when we grasp God's detailed care.

## Historical Context

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This comes during Jesus' teaching about persecution and confession (vv. 1-12). Disciples faced pressure, threats, and martyrdom. Jesus combats fear with truth about God's care—if He notes sparrows' deaths, He certainly watches over His children. The numbered-hairs statement demonstrates God's omniscience—nothing escapes His notice. Ancient Jews understood God's care for creation (Psalm 147:9—He feeds ravens) but Jesus personalizes it—God knows and cares about each individual's smallest details. This assurance sustained early Christians through persecution. Modern believers facing trials can trust the same detailed, comprehensive divine care.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does the image of God numbering our hairs demonstrate His comprehensive knowledge and intimate care for us?
2. What does the comparison to sparrows teach about arguing from God's care for lesser things to His certain care for His children?

## Interlinear Text

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ἀλλὰ καὶ αἱ τρίχες τῆς κεφαλῆς ὑμῶν πᾶσαι

**But even the very hairs of your head all**

G235 G2532 G3588 G2359 G3588 G2776 G5216 G3956

ἡρίθμηνται μὴ οὖν φοβεῖσθε· πολλῶν στρουθίων

**are not therefore Fear than many sparrows**

G705 G3361 G3767 G5399 G4183 G4765

διαφέρετε

**ye are of more value**

G1308

## Additional Cross-References

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**Matthew 6:26** (Parallel theme): Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

**Luke 21:18** (Parallel theme): But there shall not an hair of your head perish.

**2 Samuel 14:11** (Parallel theme): Then said she, I pray thee, let the king remember the LORD thy God, that thou wouldest not suffer the revengers of blood

to destroy any more, lest they destroy my son. And he said, As the LORD liveth, there shall not one hair of thy son fall to the earth.

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