

TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

To provide Bible based, true reading material for children and youth.

Year 1 - 4th Quarter - Issue #2



CREATION CORNER CAMEL WORMS

A group of neighborhood boys invaded our back yard one pleasant summer forenoon. They were chattering like starlings and examining the ground like robins. My sister came out to see the excitement.

"We're going fishing they chorused. We're looking for camel worms for bait. They beat anything."

"Camel worms? What are they?" Adultly astonished.

"Camel worms! Didn't you ever see camel worms?" Boyishly astonished.

No, she hadn't; so they enlightened her. Camel worms lived in holes in the ground and fish ate them. Seeking for connection between fish in water and camel worms in burrows, she watched the boys.

Sure enough! In some parts, the back yard was full of holes about the diameter of the tip of her little finger. We had often noticed them and wondered. The boys were armed with leaves of the ever-present wild garlic; they thrust these juicy cylinders down the holes; in a few moments they pulled them out triumphantly, and from the end of each dangled a queer grub about

an inch long, with the upward bulge near the hind end that gave them their name. They vanished into the boys' tin cans and the search went merrily on.

Camel worms! What are they? Just fish bait to boys. But she traveled to the dictionary and my "bug book." To her amusement she found that camel worms are baby tiger beetles. Camels turn into tigers by growing up. Tiger beetles, the "bug book" said, are "handsome, mostly swift-running beasts of prey." They frequent the shores of bodies of water or woodland trails, watching for other insects to catch with their powerful hooklike mandibles ("jaws").

One kind is a satiny brown with black head and neck; another kind is a bright green, with six white dots spaced around the edges of its wing covers, the six-spotted tiger beetle. Being active at night, they are not easily seen or captured. Specimens of the brown tiger beetle were formerly considered such rarities as to sell for a high price to collectors.

Our back yard yielded quite a harvest of camel worms that would never become specimens in some bugologist's cabinet. And all be-

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cause they mistook those juicy tidbits placed in their burrows to be gifts from heaven, when they were the snares of death.

Often people are just like those camel worms. They mistake the devil's garlic stems for blessings sent from above, and soon find themselves captives in his power.

"I've got to have some fun, says the young man, and he goes to places he should not go to find it.

"I've taken all I can stand; I've got to forget," cries a brokenhearted one; and she tries to drown sadness with alcohol-booze and drowns only her soul.

"I'm dreadfully lonely," cries a neglected wife. "I've a right to be happy. Why shouldn't I take my pleasure where I can find it?" And she falls for the strange man who is "so kind, and so understanding, and so sympathetic." But he is Satan's most terrible temptation in human form, and a moment's pleasure becomes eternal tragedy.

Camel worms need not be pulled out of their burrows. Their holes are deeper than the garlic stems are long. They can get out of the reach of temptation. And their camel-like humps are really defense organs. They are strong projections armed with claws intended to enable them to hold fast to the burrow walls so they can't be pulled out. Human camel worms can flee from temptation and cling fast to God and so stay safe. But temptation never yet came in a displeasing form; the devil's garlic tastes good.

But if we choose to obey Jesus, and learn of Him each day by reading His Word, He will show us how to spot the devil's traps and run away from them! = ^ .. ^ =

HISTORY

The Protestant Reformation: 11 Victories and Defeats

After the protest of the Princes and the Augsburg confession of faith had seemed to bring the victory for Protestant faith in Germany, for years divisions and persecution came upon them. Thousands died for their faith and it seemed the true faith was about to be destroyed.

Civil war broke out and some of the noblest princes were captured by the emperor and dragged about from town to town and imprisoned.

Just when the emperor seemed to win, events forced him to have to allow the freedom of worship, which he had tried so hard to stamp out. Now he saw his money and treasures gone, his armies wasted and his kingdom in revolt. Charles V had been trying to fight against the will of God and failed miserably. God said, "Let there be light", and Charles stood in the way.

He gave up the throne and hid himself, sick and worn out, in a monastery for the rest of his days.

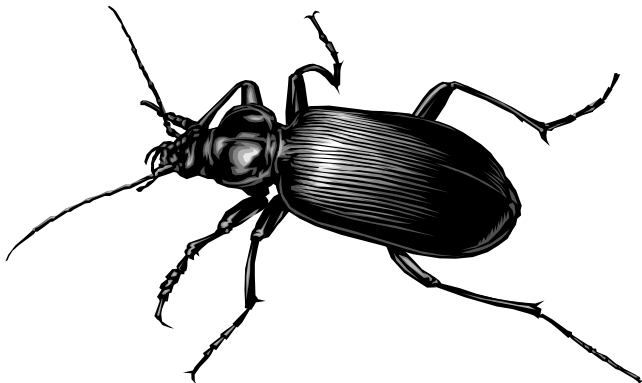
But Rome was determined to stamp out truth; persecution again raised her ugly head and thousands died for their newfound faith. War came to Switzerland also and Zwingli himself was killed in battle. For a while, Rome seemed to triumph.

In France long before the days of Luther, lived a teacher named Lefevre. He had begun to study the Bible and teach some of its gospel truth to his students.

One of these was William Farel, who was a devout Romanist. He later said about himself that he burned with zeal to destroy all who should dare to oppose the church. "I would gnash my teeth like a furious wolf when I heard any one speaking against the pope."

As a voice from Heaven, he listened to the reformer's words: "Salvation is of grace. The Innocent One is condemned, and the criminal is acquitted. It is the cross of Christ alone that openeth the gates of Heaven, and shutteth the gates of hell."

Farel joyfully accepted the truth. By a conversion like that of Paul, he turned from the bondage of tradition to the liberty of the sons of God. "Instead of the murderous heart of a



ravenging wolf," he came back, he says, "quietly, like a meek and harmless lamb, having his heart entirely withdrawn from the pope, and given to Jesus Christ.

Farel became as zealous for Jesus as he had been for the pope and went forth to declare the truth in public.

The Bishop of Meaux and other teachers joined in this spreading of the good news of Jesus, until the king and queen mother even came to almost accept the reformed faith.

At the very time when the German New Testament was printed in Germany, Lefevre published a French one at Meaux then he saw to it that copies of it were spread widely, even to the poor people. = ^ .. ^ =



TRUE-STORY-TIME

DRAGONS AND WINGED SERPENTS: 3

We read last week about THE WINGED SERPENT in the art of Egypt. Now we'll visit Central America:

MAYAN FEATHERED SERPENTS

Maya legends tell us that the WINGED SERPENT GOD came from an unknown country of the rising sun in a white robe, and he wore a beard. He was a lawgiver and taught the arts and sciences. When this god fulfilled his mission, he returned to the sea, preaching and teaching on the way, and boarded a ship, which took him to the MORNING STAR. This WINGED SERPENT GOD promised to return. The legend was remembered and when Hernando Cortez, the Spanish Conquistador, landed in Mexico in 1519, he was thought to be the WINGED SERPENT GOD in his reincarnated state.

In the days of Cortez and Pizarro, Spanish ships carried a blood-red Maltese cross, the

great SUN SYMBOL. The sun god was thought to be the sky-god by many cultures around the world. Mankind has always looked to the skies for the home of his gods and winged deities represented the heavenly aspect of the gods.

You can easily see why Montezuma, the Aztec king, was confused and thought that the Spaniards were the returning WINGED SERPENT GOD of the SUN.

A great ship glides toward the shore. Its massive sails with crosses of red seem to have a spell on the natives. As the ship comes closer, they wonder if this is truly the WINGED SERPENT GOD that their legends said would come from the east.

The ship anchored in a bay. Hernando Cortez had sailed from Cuba to conquer Mexico for Spain. He and his men came ashore in small boats.

The natives wondered what kind of beings were coming ashore. They saw that they were white men with clothing (the armour) glistening in the sun. Surely this was the return of the GREAT WHITE GOD, they thought.

Eventually Cortez and his men were brought before Montezuma, lord of many kings. It was believed that his equal was not known in all the world. Montezuma knew the legend of the WINGED SERPENT GOD that would return to the earth as the GREAT WHITE GOD.

As Cortez and his men came ashore they were prepared for battle, but instead the natives bowed down in a worshipful attitude. Surprised at these actions, Cortez wondered why the Aztecs acted in such a manner.

When taken to the palace, Cortez and his men saw all the gold in the palace and decided to steal it and take it back to Spain! Montezuma looked at Cortez and wondered if this truly was the GREAT WHITE GOD? His question was soon answered.

History tells of tremendous battles between the Aztecs and the Conquistadors this was the time of the Spanish Inquisition and both sides were skilled in methods of torture. During the heat of the battle, both sides took prisoners. But Cortez did not realize what was about to happen to his men captured by the Aztecs!

Forcing the prisoners up to their temple, the Aztecs made them climb the stairway with a movement similar to the motions of a SERPENT OR DRAGON. Upon reaching the top, the

victim was stretched out on an altar and held firmly by several men. A drum continued to beat as the natives shouted their mystic chants. Then the priest took his ceremonial knife and cut out the heart of the victim.

Throughout the art of Central America there is evidence of human sacrifice. The cultures of Central America worshipped the same WINGED SERPENT GOD found throughout the world. This god DEMANDED human sacrifice!

At one time there was a tremendous civilization in Central America. There are many ruins in this part of the world, the temples with their art tell a story that is to be found all over the world. Atop a number of these temples one can see a reclining stone figure called the CHAC MOOL. He was considered to be the life giver to the various cultures in Central America, on either side of the CHAC MOOL two WINGED SERPENTS can be seen. The mouths are open at the base, the body is the post and the tail is the lintel.

At times human sacrifices were made to the CHAC MOOL and the heart of the victim was places on a plate on the stomach of the idol.

Two WINGED SERPENTS acted as COVERING CHERUBS for the CHAC MOOL.

One design represented the Aztec DEATH SPIRIT. He was called KUKULCAN, THE WINGED SERPENT GOD.

The WINGED SERPENT has many forms in the art of Central America at times it was shown with a man's head, or even a man's face inside the mouth of a serpent. Could this represent a power speaking through the SERPENT WITH WINGS?

Ball courts were often located near the temples. Some were over 270 feet long. There were two walls about 27 feet high with two circular stone rings set 23 feet from the ground. Two WINGED SERPENTS extended the length of the walls. The art on the walls indicated that there were HUMAN SACRIFICES made to the WINGED SERPENT. It is interesting that sports have always been connected with heathen sun worship!

The WINGED SERPENT GOD is frightening when one studies the art and legends of Central America. We can see in pictures the SERPENT WITH FEATHERS ready to receive the heart from a human sacrifice. All through the history of this world, the DEVIL working through

his agents has demanded HUMAN SACRIFICES. It is no wonder that the DEVIL is called the DESTROYER in the Bible.

Outside Mexico City there are the ruins of a Toltec city called Teotihuacan. According to mythology, this city is the place where the gods came together to create the sun. Teotihuacan was the seat of one of the most advanced cultures of Central America. A temple can be seen in this ancient ruin that is dedicated to the WINGED SERPENT GOD. Dragon heads are situated throughout the temple. Once again the DRAGON and WINGED SERPENT are associated together.

Even the American Indian culture had a WINGED SERPENT in their religion. It is interesting that all over the world today, in our time, many Pagan and 'nature-worship' (witchcraft) groups are showing great interest in these old ruins. They are visiting them and seeking to learn their rituals; even holding ceremonies at them! They think there is some great power to be obtained by finding out what these ancient peoples did. This is another sign of the end times.

They do not stop to think that if there were such GREAT POWER in these horrible human sacrifices, how come these people are all wiped out today? We know why- God had to allow this wicked culture to be destroyed because of their cruel, bloodthirsty ways. Satan's religion always brings misery and death—not real power! More next week- = ^ .. ^ =

A STORY LESSON

MY BODY TEMPLE: PART 1

You have all seen some very beautiful houses. Perhaps they were made of brick or stone, with fine porches, having around them tall shade trees, smooth lawns, pretty flower-beds, walks, and sparkling fountains.

If you visit a nice house, you find that the inside of the house is even more beautiful than the outside. There are nice chairs and sofas in the rooms, rich carpets and rugs on the floors, fine mirrors and beautiful pictures upon the walls-everything one could wish to have in a house. Do you not think such a house nice to live in?

Each of us has a house of his own which is far more wonderful than the best palace ever built. It is not a very large house. It has just

room enough in it for one person. This house, which belongs to each one of us, is called our body.

Do you know what a machine is? Men make machines to help them work and to do many useful things. A wheel-barrow or a wagon is a machine to carry loads. A sewing-machine helps to make garments for us to wear. Clocks and watches are machines for keeping time.

A wheelbarrow has a box to carry things in, two handles to hold, and a wheel for rolling it along. Some machines, like wheelbarrows and wagons, have few parts, and it is very easy for us to learn how they work. But there are other machines, like watches and sewing machines, which have many different parts, and it is harder to learn all about them and what they do.

In some ways the body is more like a machine than a house. It has many different parts to do a great many things. We see with our eyes, hear with our ears, walk with our legs and feet, and do many things with our hands. If you have ever seen the inside of a watch or a clock you know how many curious little wheels it has. And yet a watch or a clock can only do one thing, and that is to tell us the time. The body has many more parts than a watch, so the body can do many more things than a watch.

It is more difficult, too, to learn about the body than about a watch. If we want to know all about a machine and how it works, we must study all its different parts and learn how they are put together, and what each part does. Then, if we want the machine to work well and to last a long time, we must know how to use it and how to take proper care of it. Do you think your watch would keep time well if you don't wind it, or break its wheels?

It is just the same with the human machine we call the body. We must learn its parts, and what they are for, how they are made, how they are put together, and how they work. Then we must learn how to take proper care of the body, so that its parts will be able to work well and last a long time.

Each part of the body that is made to do some special kind of work is called an organ. The eye, the ear, the nose, a hand, an arm or any part of the body that does something, is an organ.

The study of the parts of the body and how they are put together is anatomy (a-nat' -o-my).

The study of what each part of the body does, is physiology (phys-i-ol' -o-gy). The study of how to take care of the body is hygiene (hy-jeen). More next week. = ^ .. ^ =

BUILDING FOR JESUS

ONLY ANGELS NEED APPLY: pt-4

Earth Angels

Romans 15:1 "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves."

Last week we learned a bit of how heavenly angels work in loving and unselfish ways. Angels are powerful, intelligent and beautiful; and yet they delight to come down here to try and help even the most ugly and shabby person.

Unselfishly they seek to lead our thoughts to seek Jesus. They hold back the dark angels and prevent them from destroying us. And when a child or adult that they have been working with begins to respond to the light and gives his heart to Jesus—they are so happy, they carry the news to heaven and all the angels sing and rejoice.

They care about us and when a person turns away and chooses to follow Satan's ways of selfishness, they weep. God gave man the power of free choice, and sometimes it comes to the point where the powers of heaven have done everything they can possibly do, but the person still chooses self and Satan's ways. Then the angels sadly turn away, and weeping, leave that one to Satan's nasty angels. But they don't give up easy—Oh, No! As long as there is any hope, they keep trying.

Now if we expect to live among the angels in heaven, we need to learn to be like them on earth. Once a person has given their whole hearts to Jesus, and start to obey Him in His strength, then the angels teach us to work with them to help the needy ones.

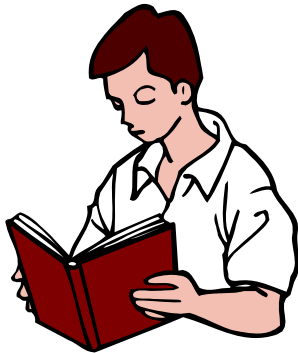
Yes, even here on earth, you can work together with heavenly angels. Look around you, notice people who are sad, lonely, struggling, having a hard time. Pray for them, and ask Jesus to show you if there is any way you can help them. Sometimes even a sweet smile and a cheery word is a great help to a lonely person. What about your parents and brothers and sisters, a helping hand with cheerfulness can do a lot to

make a happy home.

We tend to want to play and associate with only those who are pretty, or rich, or charming. But remember that the bright angels seek to help even the most degraded ones. Do you know anyone who seems to be left out a lot? Perhaps a poor child who is avoided because they are shabby, perhaps an old person that no-one ever seems to visit.

Remember that if we live only to please ourselves, we are still serving Satan. Give your whole heart to Jesus, and, like the angels, unselfishly help others.

You will have a wonderful surprise! Because it is only when we start living the unselfish life, the heavenly life, that we begin to have real happiness on earth. To Be Continued. = ^ .. ^ =



Year 1: 4th Quarter:

“BIBLE PICTURE STORIES”

WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 2: “BIRDS”

For our Bible lessons we are going to use the King James Version of the Bible. Just like the boys and girls used to use to learn to read from in the pioneer days.

There will be some texts to look up for each day and you should practice your memory verse until you can say it without looking. Don't forget to learn the text too.

MEMORY VERSE: “But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.” Luke 12:7

Sunday

Text: Matthew 10:29-31 “Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.”

Think of it, not one of these little brown sparrows that are singing their praises to God will fall to the ground without the notice of the heavenly Father. Not one of these little brown sparrows that the boys so ruthlessly kill, drops to the ground but His eye marks its fall.

Not even a sparrow falls to the ground without the Father's notice. Satan's hatred against God leads him to hate every object of the Saviour's care. He seeks to mar the handiwork of God, and he delights in destroying even the dumb creatures. It is only through God's protecting care that the birds are preserved to gladden us with their songs of joy. But He does not forget even the sparrows. “Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.”

When people hurt and kill God's little creatures, it makes Jesus very sad. Cruelty is the Devil's trademark. When people enjoy torturing and killing living things, they are showing they are the children of Satan, who was a murderer and tormenter from the beginning of the world.

Never take part in any kind of cruelty, and if you see it, do your best to stop it. Remember that God sees it all, and the Holy Watchers keep a record. If you know someone who is cruel, it might be a good idea to tell them that the angels are watching. Those who are cruel will reap cruelty in their own lives.

Thought - If you have a pet, always make sure that you are kind to it and care for it faithfully. God watches these things.

Monday

Text: Leviticus 14:7 “And he shall sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose into the open field.”

It is very interesting that Jesus talked about the price of sparrows when He was here. There had not been much interest in buying sparrows before Jesus began His ministry. But in Leviticus 14 we find that an offering of two sparrows was to be brought to the Priest for anyone who had been cleansed of leprosy. Before Jesus began cleansing the lepers, it had been thousands of years since someone had been cured of leprosy.

What was done with the two sparrows is most interesting. One bird was killed and its

blood mixed with some running water: notice—blood and water! Then the live bird was dipped in the blood and water and set free.

Leprosy was a symbol of the horribleness of sin. Unless it was cured by a miracle, it would gradually eat away at the person, making him more and more ugly, until he died. The two birds represent the plan of salvation. Jesus died for us, and His blood is the sinner's only hope.

By dipping the live bird in the blood and water, it was shown that our sins can only be removed by Jesus' death on the cross. After that, the little bird went free! Can't you just see his joyful flight up into the sky and away?

Thought - It was because Jesus was curing lepers; an unheard of thing not considered possible; that sparrows were once again being bought as offerings!

Tuesday

Text: Psalm 124:7 "Our soul is escaped as a bird out of the snare of the fowlers: the snare is broken, and we are escaped." Proverbs 1:17 "Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird."

There are several places in the Bible where it talks about catching birds in nets or snares. People, who caught birds to sell for food, were called fowlers. Satan is like a cruel fowler, seeking to catch us in his nets and snares.

Notice this verse: "Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler..." Psalms 91:3 Jesus wants to set us all free from the traps of Satan. But He can't do it unless we are willing to stop going after Satan's bait! He gives us the power of free choice, and if we choose to have that bait no matter what, we will be caught.

Jesus died to break the snare, as it says in the verse; He made a way of escape for us poor trapped birds.

But God has done even more, he has given us much counsel in the Bible and now in these last days, when we need so much more help, he has given us the Spirit of Prophecy writings. We have thousands of pages of information telling us all about the 'snares of the fowler'!

Notice it says that if the bird sees the man set the trap for him, he will not be caught in it. So we, by reading the inspired information, will be able to see those traps and, in Jesus' strength, stay away from them.

Thought - All the wonderful counsel in the world will not help us, if we do not read it, believe it, and obey it! We need to be wise birds!

Wednesday

Text: Matthew 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!"

What bird did Jesus call His people? Tiny chicks! The weakest and most helpless of all. And a mother hen, so faithful and loving to her babies that some people use her as a symbol of the best mother, stands for Jesus' care for us.

Gathering us all safe and warm under His wings, is what He wants to do for all of us. How kindly and full of goodness and mercy is our God, to use such an illustration! Tiny chicks are extremely alert to stay near their mother and run to her in time of danger.

In late afternoon as the sky is darkening somewhat, the mother hen calls to her little ones,—and they hurry to her! Then, leading them to a safe place, she crouches down somewhat, leaving just enough space beneath her for the chicks to hide securely. One by one, they press beneath her soft feathers.

This is what God wants to do for you and me. He wants us very close to Himself, where we will be safe. What a powerful truth this is! Psalms 91:4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust:

Thought - The Jews of Jesus day had refused to come to Him and it was breaking His heart. We must learn to stay close to our dear Lord.

Thursday

Text: Deuteronomy 32:11 "As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings."

Eagles build their nests way up in the high rocks and places where no danger can come to the babies. Like the hen, the mother eagle takes very good care of her babies.

Now when the time comes that the little ones need to learn to fly for themselves, she begins

to encourage them in several ways. When the nest is built, it is made of prickly branches, but it is all lined with soft grasses and fluff. Then when it is time for those babies to get flying, she 'stirs up her nest'. In other words she takes out the soft stuff and leaves the prickles.

She encourages the young to try to fly, by fluttering over the nest and calling to them; but it is scary for them. Then she will take the young bird on her back and sore up into the air. Then she will drop away from under it so it has to fly. If it has trouble she again will swoop under it and support it.

So God patiently teaches and protects His children. Sometimes also He has to 'stir up our nest' because we get settled into habits or situations that are not good for our spiritual growth. Then He will allow trials and difficulties to come to make us want to climb out of the prickles and onto His powerful back.

In Revelation 12:14 we see the persecuted church helped to fly as an eagle to a rugged and safe place. "And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent."

Thought - We all must individually be in the school of Jesus where He teaches us, each one, helping and guiding us as a mother eagle.

Friday

Text: Revelation 18:2 "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."

Here we see a very interesting, yet sad, word picture. Jesus is saying that 'Babylon', the churches that obey their leaders instead of obeying God, has changed into a cage of nasty birds. 'Unclean and hateful birds' are things like vultures, and crows and sea gulls. They are noisy, smelly, and are always picking at each other and trying to bully each other.

Now wild birds that are this way can't help it, as that's the way they are made. But people do not have to act like them. We have a choice!

You see, what has happened is that people have chosen to follow the rules made up by

church leaders, and to obey church leaders instead of God's inspired words. Mark 7:7 "Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." When they do this, they begin to fight among themselves, each trying to be the boss, or more important than the other. Those who will not surrender and obey God, become slaves to each other and everything else!

Like carrion and killer birds, they make their living by picking and tearing at their fellow birds. Religious leaders do this by trying to force all the people in the church to obey them, and they take the money from the people and use it for their own purposes. Instead of being humble servants, like Jesus was, to the people, they become vultures, getting fat off their fellow birds.

God's true children are a very different kind of bird. God says: Jeremiah 12:9 "Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird, the birds round about are against her;"

When the unclean and hateful birds see the different and peculiar people that Jesus wants His children to be— faithful and obeying Him, they persecute them.

Thought - Remember that although we can learn from and with each other, no person can tell you how to serve the Lord; each one of us must learn from God for ourselves, and obey Him. = ^ .. ^ =

God Sees the Little Sparrow

1. God sees the little sparrow fall,
It meets His tender view;
If God so loves the little bird,
I know He loves me too.

Chorus:
He loves me too, He loves me too,
I know He loves me too;
Because He loves the little things,
I know He loves me too.

2. He paints the lily of the field,
Perfumes each lily bell;
If He so loves the little flow'rs,
I know He loves me well.

3. God made the little birds and flow'rs,
And all things large and small;
He'll not forget His little ones,
I know He loves them all.