

The Master of the Sparrows

A Scottish minister of a previous generation recounted a dream to his congregation.

He dreamed he had died and came to the Pearly Gates. To his dismay, he was denied entrance until he presented his credentials. Proudly, the pastor articulated the number of sermons preached and the prominent pulpits occupied. But St. Peter said no one had heard them in heaven.

The discouraged servant enumerated his community involvements. He was told they were not recorded. Sorrowfully, the pastor turned to leave when Peter said, “Stay a moment, and tell me, are you the man who fed the sparrows?”



“Yes,” the Scotsman replied. “But what does that have to do with it?”

“Come in,” said St. Peter. “The Master of the sparrows wants to thank you.”

Here is the pertinent, though often overlooked, point: Great and prominent positions indicate skill and capacity, but small services, too, can suggest the depth of one’s consecration.

Let it be clear: Eternal life, fellowship with God, is obtained through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and not through good works, whether they be great or small. But everything done in His name – particularly in service to others – is important in the Kingdom of God.

– Beecher Hunter