

Remnant Life Church
November 10, 2013

Becoming An Eagle Christian

Part VII

“Renewed, Refreshed, and Recharged”

Psalms 103:1-5

“Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”

- Is anybody tired?
- Does it seem like there are always many more things to do in a day than there are hours to do them in?
- Do our minds filled with all the clutter of the world rather than the things that bring us joy?
- Are we destined to burn out like a sun at some point just expending all our energy?
- Or has God provided a way for us to become renewed in this life?

To understand renewal you must first know three truths:

1. There will be difficulties in this life – I Thess 3:3 - ...so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. For you know quite well that we are destined for them.
2. We are equipped to be victorious in the day-to-day trials – II Tim 3:16-17 - All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.
3. Satan wants you to believe that these things will overcome you and you will always be defeated – John 8:44 - ...when he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Even the mighty eagle begins to eventually show its age and begin to struggle with even the most basic of its life tasks.

1. Older feathers will begin to give off a tell-tale whistle that will alert prey to the approach of the hunter.
2. The talons will lose their sharpness
3. Calcification will sometimes form on the beak disrupting its balance in flight.
 - a. Four basic components of flight – thrust, life, drag, weight
 - b. When one is significantly out of balance to the other three flight is hampered

At this time in its life, the eagle will often fly to the highest place in its area – isolating itself and getting closer to the sun.

1. It will pluck the old feathers out
2. Find a mountain stream to thoroughly wash itself.
3. Cleans the feathers of blood, parasites, lice and anything else that weakens the bird
 - a. What makes us “dirty?”

- b. Dirty is anything that keeps us from being as close as possible to God
- 4. Then it will face the sun and stand with its magnificent wings spread to dry.
- 5. While waiting for new feathers it will take the time to carefully and meticulously sharpen its beak.
 - a. How do we use our time of waiting?
 - b. The mark of a growing, maturing Christian is one who knows how to wait well
- 6. It will also rid itself of the calcium deposit in the same way – by methodically stroking its beak against a rock.
- 7. The talons will also be ground back to their lethal sharpness.
 - a. **Prov. 27:17** - *As iron sharpens iron so one person sharpens another.*
 - b. There are times when it will take sharpening to bring about change

What can we do when we are in a time needing renewal?

1. Are any “feathers” that need to be removed?
 - a. Probably uncomfortable if not painful
 - b. This takes an honest assessment of where we are; not looking to place blame
 - c. Ask the Holy Spirit – **Psalms 44:21** ...*He knows the secrets of the heart.*
 2. The eagle cleans itself with water but only the blood of Jesus can cleanse us of the parasites and stain and sin.
 - a. “What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus” – Robert Lowry (1876)
 - i. also: All The Way My Savior Leads Me
 - b. **Isaiah 1:18** - *Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.*
 3. Our beak is our mouth which speaks the Word (the sword) needs to be ever-ready, maintained and sharpened
 - a. Eph. 6
 - b. One side is to do battle with the enemy while the other is for preening our lives.
 4. Whatever needs to be sharpened in your life, use the Rock that loves us more than we can know.
 5. In every circumstance, always draw closer to the Son.
- Difficulties in life are unavoidable.
 - Aging and losing some of the edge of our lives is also unavoidable.
 - It can and will wear us down; make us tired
 - Waiting on the things of God will renew us if we desire His will in our lives – **Isaiah 40:31**