

Remnant Life Church

February 16, 2020

On Eagles Wings

Part IV

“Born to Soar”

Isaiah 40:25-31

Review:

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| Part I | Introduction: the Eagle throughout the history of culture |
| Part II | The Birds of the Church |
| Part III | Learning to fly |

The Eagle: Unrivaled in Flight

1. Certain types of raptor birds (carnivorous birds such as the eagle and hawk) have been documented at heights of 25,000 feet.
2. Eagles have been observed over the ocean between New York and England.
3. One was spotted over 900 miles south of Greenland – putting it nearly in the middle of the North Atlantic.
4. With their incredibly powerful wings they can, in just a matter of moments, obtain heights in excess of 12,000 feet.

On Eagles Wings

1. Three primary characteristics of the eagle’s wings that set it apart –
 - a. Lightness
 - b. Flexibility
 - c. Great Strength
2. There are 4 layers of feathers on the eagle’s wing
3. Slots between the primary feathers that reduce drag caused by the air flowing around the wing giving it greater efficiency to make use of even the slightest updraft.
4. Not only can it use the lightest breezes but the wing structure allows it to hover virtually unmoving in here winds.
5. The tail feathers can tilt as a unit in either direction giving the bird an ability to literally turn on a point in mid-flight as it pursues its prey
6. The wings also allow for tremendous speed – the Bonelli eagle (named for Franco Andrea Bonelli, the Italian Ornithologist) has been tracked at nearly 200 mph in a dive to capture prey.
 - a. This eagle will strike its prey at these incredible speeds, stun it in mid-air with an explosion of feathers, and then capture the bird in its talons all before it hits the ground
 - b. They are truly a remarkable bird of aerodynamic skill
7. Aircraft designers have been trying for decades, unsuccessfully, to copy the slotted wing structure.

We are called to mount up!

Isaiah 40:31

...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar (NKJV – mount up) on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

1. Mount up, in the original Hebrew language, means to ascend or be high up; other meanings - to increase, grow, recover, restore, and to perfect.
2. Knowledge of the thermal currents is important to the flight of the eagle
 - a. As the sun rises the air begins to heat up.
 - b. The “flappers” of the bird kingdom take to the air early
 - c. The eagle waits often until mid-day before its first flight of the day.
3. The eagle flies on the winds of the thermal currents.
 - a. The eagle has control of the flight but the air currents provide the power.
 - b. The eagle simply does not fly like most other birds
 - i. Its achievements are great and impressive
 - ii. Its efforts are comparatively minimal
 - c. God wants us to understand this truth: Power and ability does not originate within us
 - d. Some of the greatest men of the Scripture realized they were not the source...
 - i. **Exodus 3** – Moses at the burning bush – “I don’t speak well”
 - ii. **Judges 6** – Gideon called to be the leader of his people – “I am from the smallest tribe:”
 - iii. **John 5:19** – (Jesus says) “*Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.*”

Soaring in the Church

1. The thermal wind of the Holy Spirit is available to us.
2. Many Christians are unaware of it because they will not sit and wait for it.
3. Flapping Christians rely too much on their own efforts and miss the move of the Holy Spirit.
4. An Eagle Christian, one on eagle’s wings, waits on the Lord so that when they rise it is in the strength of the Lord.
5. Eagle Christians are never satisfied to be “earthbound” but always desire the thermal winds of the Holy Spirit to lift and move them.

One more physical attribute of the Eagle - Greater Vision

1. Eagle vision is many, many times more acute and sharper than human.
2. Altitude adds to the field of vision.
3. The Chicken and Turkey, confined to the ground can only see a few feet in either direction.
4. The Crow, flying at 30 feet can see a few hundred yards,
5. An eagle soaring at thousands of feet can see clearly on the ground for many miles around.

6. The higher we soar in the spirit, the further off we can see to spot the approach of the enemy.
 - And so again - YOU WERE BORN TO SOAR!
 - This does not mean that everything is perfect in your life
 - Matt 13 – the parable of the soils
 - Jesus said, “*When persecutions come...*”
 - Satan wants you to believe the lie that with each difficulty it means you are “grounded”
 - The times of trouble come to enable us to soar through and sometimes even above them on the thermal wind of the Holy Spirit to God’s glory!
 - My question this morning is...
 - Are there things in your life that you are allowing to remain that are keeping you grounded?
 - Sin in your life; anger; jealousy; false beliefs; pride...