

Soaring to New Heights - Eagles

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I. Introduction.

- A. God uses things of nature to reveal himself to us.
- B. God compares himself to an eagle and us to eagles.

II. God compares himself and us to an eagles.

- A. An eagle was created to live in the heavens as Christians were. (Ephesians 2:6)
- B. The eagle finds only that which is alive and fresh for food as Christians should.
 - 1. A poor spiritual diet will result in poor spiritual health. This will decrease tolerance as well.
 - 2. Eagle Christians seek out the Word for health. (Hebrews 4:12; Proverbs 4:23; 4:20-22; Jeremiah 15:16)
- C. When eagles find their mate, they will remain together for life. God has intended partners to remain together for life.
- D. Eagles stay in the same home for fifty years, so they have to find secure homes high against a rock wall. Both the husband and wife are committed to building the home unlike other birds.
 - 1. Both Christian spouses should be devoted to building their home.
 - 2. People need to get alone and be with God. (Job 39:27-29; Philippians 3:14; Colossians 3:1-2; Psalm 91)
- E. Eagles build a new nest on the old one to allow smaller birds to nest in the lower parts. Older Christians should protect the younger ones. (Romans 15:1-3)
- F. Eagles endure the winter months.
 - 1. Christians have a season of winter where their spiritual life undergoes a barren time.
 - 2. Grace grows best in winter.
 - 3. Do not simply try to do more and do not quit.
- G. God is lovingly kind toward us like a Father-eagle in what he lets us see to beautify our lives. (Psalm 63:3)
- H. The mother eagle always protects her young. Jesus is with us always. (1 Thessalonians 2:7)
- I. Every new Christian needs spiritual parents to help them grow.

J. The eagle grows by comfort removal. We learn things from hardship in hindsight. We learn our weaknesses and grow from them.

K. Eagles are unattractive when they are first born, but they have a gold crown of maturity that is developing.

L. Some eagles grow at different speeds. Christians should not compare their growth to others.

M. Eagles look more like their parents when they mature. We look more like God when we mature. (2 Corinthians 3:18)

N. The father eagle saves the baby eagle at the last minute during flying training. The father eagle must be a precision pilot.

1. What appears to be cruelty, is the most beneficial thing.

2. God teaches Christians to walk and eventually run. (Deuteronomy 32:11)

O. God brings us to himself as on wings of eagles. (Psalm 103:1-5; Exodus 19:4)

P. Eagles must prune themselves for cleaning, which is necessary for collecting food.

1. Christians should prepare themselves for the world through sanctification.

2. They should have daily quiet times.

Q. The eagle's primary enemy is the serpent, just as man's is.

R. The eagle drops the serpent on the rock, which pictures Jesus.

S. The eagle spends alone time in the sky. The Christian should spend solitary time with God as well.

T. Eagles see storms from a great distance, but they are not afraid of them.

1. They use the strong winds that accompany the storm to rise above the storm. The only exception is the mother who stays with her young.

2. The eagle Christian rises above the storm by drawing close to God. (Palm 91:4)

U. The eagle locates a sunny spot and prostrates himself when he is sick in order to heal.

1. When Christians ingest something false, they become sick.

2. They need to prostrate themselves before God.

V. The eagle molts for renewal. The Christians need to experience renewal as well.

III. Conclusion.

Application questions:

1. What are some of the observations about the eagle that stood out to you the most?

2. What can you do to become more of an eagle-Christian?

3. In what ways does your view of God need to change in light of the eagle metaphor he uses to explain himself in Scripture? Explain.
