

Remnant Life Church

March 1, 2020

On Eagles Wings

Part 6

“Renewed, Refreshed, and Restored”

Psalms 103:1-12

- Is anybody here this morning tired?
 - I don't mean morning tired
 - Or work tired
 - But weary tired
- Let me ask that same question in another way...
 - Do you regularly feel a heaviness in your spirit?
 - Does it seem that your mind is always filled with the clutter and noise of the world rather than the things that bring joy?
 - Are you unable to shake the feeling that you're always just on the edge of burning out like a match?
- One more question...
 - Do you believe or know that God has provided a way for us to be renewed and be strengthened every day?

To understand renewal you must first know three truths:

1. There will be difficulties in this life – I Thess 3:1-4 - *So when we could stand it no longer, we thought it best to be left by ourselves in Athens. We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. For you know quite well that we are destined for them. In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be persecuted. And it turned out that way, as you well know.*
 - a. One of the ways satan discourages Christians is by getting you to believe that once you accept Jesus Christ your life will be easy
 - b. Then when difficult times or even setbacks occur, he tells you that God doesn't love you and Jesus makes no difference in your life
2. Satan wants you to believe that these things will overcome you and you will always be defeated
 - a. That is a lie – everything he says to you is a lie
 - i. If you feel like you are a failure – that's a lie
 - ii. If you feel abandoned and unloved – that's a lie
 - iii. If you believe you have no value or worth – that's a lie
 - b. **John 8:44** - *...when he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*
3. We are equipped to be victorious in the day-to-day trials
 - a. **I Peter 2:9** - *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

- i. Written for the people of Israel
 - ii. But also for us, Gentiles who have been grafted into the people of God by salvation through Jesus Christ
- b. **Rom 8:37** - ...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

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

1. As the feathers age and become a little ragged, they will start emitting a tell-tale whistle that will alert prey to the approach of the hunter.
2. The talons will begin to lose their sharpness
3. Calcification will sometimes form on the beak disrupting its balance in flight.
 - a. Four essential components of flight – thrust, lift, drag, weight
 - b. When one is significantly out of balance to the other three flight is hampered if not impossible

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 warmth of the sun.

1. It will begin to pluck the old feathers out in pairs so as to keep the wings balanced and maintain its ability to fly
2. Find a mountain stream or another source of water to regularly and thoroughly wash itself
3. Cleanse the feathers of blood, parasites, lice and anything else that weakens the bird
 - a. In that same thinking, what makes you “dirty?” spiritually or emotionally
 - b. Dirty is anything that keeps you from being as close to God as possible
 - c. Like the eagle, in order to be right again, the dirt has to be removed
4. Each time it washes, the eagle will face the sun and stand with its magnificent wings spread to dry.
5. Often, while waiting for its wing to dry, 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
 - c. Patience: the art of waiting peacefully
6. The eagle will also rid the beak of any calcium deposits – by methodically stroking its beak back and forth 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 in your life to bring about change

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

1. First, are there any “feathers” that need to be removed?
 - a. Sin; thinking that needs to be adjusted; relationships that are toxic
 - b. Uncomfortable if not often painful
 - c. This takes an honest assessment of where you are; not looking to place blame but laying every aspect of your life at the foot of the cross and being willing to give anything up

