Remnant Life Church September 29, 2013

Becoming An Eagle Christian Part 1

Isaiah 40:31

- The eagle is the most majestic of all birds
 - o it has no natural predator
 - o commands the sky when it flies
- The eagle is used throughout the Bible (at least 25 times) as a metaphor or an identifying model for God's children and even the ways of God Himself
 - o Virtually all in the OT; twice in Revelation
 - o Probably only the lion is shown as greater in power
 - When we learn more about the eagle we can see more clearly how those characteristics should be incorporated into our lives
 - o Transfer the physical into the spiritual sense as you learn
- Some of the most striking characteristics are the <u>power</u>, <u>beauty</u> and ability to <u>survive</u> and <u>thrive</u> in the harshest environments
 - Isa 40:31 ... but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.
 - The power of the bird is the power of the Holy Spirit in each of us
 - I Cor. 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
 - The <u>beauty</u> is the love of God that we each have been freely given and should freely give to others
 - Math. 22; Mark 12; Luke 10
 - The ability to <u>survive</u> and <u>thrive</u> in any environment is the victorious life we are called to live as empowered, forgiven, and dynamic children of God
 - Rom. 8:37 ... in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
- There are more than 60 species of eagle in the world
 - o Only 14 are found outside of Eurasia and Africa
 - o 9 in Central and South America
 - o 3 in Australia
 - o 2 in the US and Canada
 - Four slides

- Bald flying
- Bald head only
- Golden
- RLC logo
- The physical characteristics of the eagle are unmatched
 - They have powerful legs with talons that when gripped, no prey can free itself from
 - Martial Eagle of central and southern Africa has eyes that are 3.5 times more powerful than ours
 - o Stamina that enables it to soar and fly for hours at a time
 - o No bird will challenge an eagle in flight except another eagle

God's Ornithological Society - the Church

- o If we are to be like the eagle we need to be aware that there are other types of birds who we must be on guard to protect ourselves from.
- Watchful for anything that will attempt to deny what God wants to do in and through us (last week's sermon)

1. Chicken

- a. Generally timid and seldom flies
- b. Usually low self-image
- c. Very little desire to receive healing in their lives (identity)
- d. Can easily spread that attitude

2. Pigeon

- a. Soft and cuddly
- b. Never takes a firm stand on anything
- c. Never around when things get difficult

3. Crow

- a. One of the most cunning and dangerous birds
- b. It's only goal is to please itself
- c. Will tear through anyone or anything that stands its way
- d. Especially delights when it can "get" a leader

4. Peacock

- a. Flashy and showy
- b. Overly ambitious and filled with pride
- c. Constantly needs to be stroked and seen
- d. Beautiful but always destructive

5. Pelican

- a. Only wants to satisfy its own appetite
- b. Let's everyone else do the dirty work while it just feeds on the outcome

- 6. Owl
 - a. Appears wise
 - b. Often associated with the occult
- 7. Canary
 - a. Often very gifted
 - b. Bound to its cage (the cage is most often their gift)
- While we need to be on guard and watchful for the "birds of the air" we need to show them God's love and pray for them to be brought into the fullness of becoming an Eagle Christian.
- Next week:
 - o The eagle throughout history