

ITS TIME TO RISE UP & FLY

An American Indian found an eagle egg & put the egg in the nest of a prairie chicken. The eaglet hatched with the brood of chicks & grew up with them. All of his life the eagle believed he was a prairie chicken. He did what the other chicks did: scratching in the dirt, making noises & flapping its wings to fly briefly off the ground. Years past when it was old he saw a magnificent bird far above him in the sky soaring in the wind. He asked, "What's that?" The reply came: "An eagle. Don't give it a thought; you'll never be one of them." He died believing he was just a prairie chicken.

Many never achieve what they were meant to be in life. This is so true of us as Christians. We settle for less, thinking that what life has given us is it. We allow things of this world to overshadow us & therefore never arise to overcome the obstacles. To soar above the things that bind us to this life, instead of believing who we are, our authority, our destiny according to His Word. Instead of being apathetic, mediocrity, comfortable, it's time to arise. To see beyond the natural forces of fear, poverty, sickness, disillusionment & be a Joseph who didn't let the circumstances he found himself in deter who He was. Circumstances don't determine who we are. Character does. He experienced what we'd call highs & lows.

1 Father loved Him v3

2 **Jealousy** of His brothers Gen 37:11 (Joseph had dream God was preparing Him)

3 **Betrayal** of his brothers v28 sold him as a slave in Egypt (type of Jesus - loved Father, own turned on Him, sold silver)

4 God was with Him 39:2-4 to prosper, be successful, promoted, found favor v6 handsome

5 **Unjustly imprisoned** v 19,20

6 But Lord was with him v21-23 found favor, given authority, prospered

7 **He was forgotten** even though he'd interrupted Pharaoh's dream 41:18, 23 further 2 years

8 Second dream he was told Pharaoh about him 41:12 called v14-32 Saw he was wise & discerning v33,39 (Proverb2:10,11)

9 Appointed overseer in charge v34-37 favor again with servants v40 second in charge v43 bow

10 Joseph had 2 children Manasseh 'God has made me forget all my trouble & all my Father's household' & Ephraim 'God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction'

11 Not only saved Egypt but family 42:2,3 Joseph was ruler v6 Joseph recognized brothers v8 made unusual request to see the youngest brother 43:15 obeyed after Father was convinced

12 Restored to his Father & family 45:25-28

God called us to be history makers living a life of victory over our circumstances. We are to be the master of our circumstances rather than be mastered by them.

'Let the weak say I am strong in the Lord & the power of His might' Joel 3:10

'Those who know their God shall be strong & do exploits' Dan 11:32

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BALD Eagle emblem of USA since 1782 weight up to 6k length 68-75cm wingspan 2m it mates for life & never associates with its peers Each peer occupies the same large territory for the duration of their partnership driving off all competitors Their diet mainly fish & small animals Sometimes the animals are bigger than themselves They are the largest & most powerful bird of prey

WHAT WE LEARN FROM THE EAGLE

1 IT SOARS TO HIGH PLACES Its recorded to fly 22.5k without bending its wings (lock wings)

Eagles fly alone They launch into wind Prov 30:18,19 Use adversity to their advantage Arise to heights above storms They go up Once there up its effortless Mount up like wings of Eagles Higher get more see Something about standing on a Mtn & seeing magnificent view a different perspective They known to get up to 30,000 ft over 9000 meters riding winds not nothing where or how high go ,no fear, they trust as they rise above storm They will encounter at high & are covered in ice, his head, wings, everything As they descend the ice melts - Resilience

2 ITS SWIFT IN FLIGHT Job 9:26 Duet 28:49 wings very maneuverable, agile, their long wings enable them to soar on the currents of air They are incredibly powerful enabling them to fly long distances at one time

3 ITS POWERFUL EYESIGHT allows them to see 3.2k away for prey Job 39:29 Our eyes were made to see beyond obstacles distorted view below Above the clouds/fog

4 IT'S A VERY CLEAN BIRD

5 ITS STRONG AFFECTION FOR THE YOUNG Gal 5:22 feeds, keeps warm, protects They are a fierce hunter while being very gentle towards its young The eggs hatch after 6 weeks, they learn to fly after 12 weeks Both parents feed their young, even after learning to fly Nest is called eyrie Its nest is huge made up branches padded with grass usually situated in the fork of a tall tree or in rock formations They use the nest continually restocking it over their lifespan around 100 yrs 6 IT RENEWS ITS STRENGTH Ps 103:5 youth renewed like eagle each year get new feathers live long Casts off its torn feathers as fresh ones are renewed Knows when it will die

7 SHARP HARP HOOKED BEAK 'nesher' tearer with beak Needs strength get its feed Heb 4:14 It will die without a healthy beak, if its cracked or broken as starve to death Its claws – they are able to tear a monkey apart in seconds, kill sheep using the feet to grab & kill their victims Each foot has 4 toes with long curved claws called talons It has the largest beak of any hunting bird It can carry off any animal weighting as much as 3.5k

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8 ITS TEACHS YOUNG TO FLY Eaglet Safe in nest great view sun beaming down on them eight meals a day & naps in between Great life Duet 32:11; 33:7 Then Mum she comes along ruffling her feathers, (called stirring up process) dismantling nest creating a hole in the front of the nest Discomfort , deliberate unsettling young out of love Ex 19:4 They learn by doing flapping before she edges her eaglet to leave nest unknown forcing eaglet to use their wings to survive As it begins to plummet down beginning to flutter its wings then Mum swoops up underneath & catches the eaglet on her wings Talk about emotions fear, anxiety, unknown, uncomfortable, insecure This process begins again until it gets the hang of it Welcome to Eagle flight training We were made to soar not flap The only way to fly is too do it They learn by watching how they wait for the wind, the up draught An eagle when falling only needs to realize it has to stretch out its wings thus forcing the air over its wings to lift it up As fly wings being developed as you fly Prov 30:18 an eagle flying in the sky there's beauty majestic grace & symbolic of the Spirit Obadiah 4 We are to go to heights that's where we can see danger, adversary like an eagle, teaching its young to fly catching them safely on its spreading wings the Lord kept Israel from falling

Obstacle is that which opposes – anything that stands in the ways or hinders

Paul in 1 Cor 16:9 'A wide door for effective service has opened to me & there are many adversaries' Many miss oppurnities because they focus on obstacles & therefore miss his call

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF TURBULENCE

1 It causes the eagle to fly higher

2 It gives the eagle a larger view

3 It lifts the eagle above harassment

4 It allows the eagle to use less effort

5 It allows it to stay up longer

6 It helps it to fly faster (aircraft tail wind as opposed head wind)

Isa 40:31 they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength & they shall mount up with eagles wings They shall run & not be weary & they shall walk & not faint

WAIT means to surrender & trust Him entirely surrendered & trust Him totally

Sometimes we need to wait for wind of the Holy Spirit instead of impatiently going ahead in our own strength Life has its obstacles but its wether we rise above them & where we find our strength to overcome or well be overcome Often its only when the props are removed that we truly trust God when we are out on a limb with nowhere to go but step/venture out

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Risk minimal if its controlled by our senses, traditions, habits, reactions, feelings rather than Holy Spirit Something inside us propels us to want to accept the challenge The impossible dream Many have dreams but never see them to fulfilment God never puts a desire in our hearts or beckons us to walk on water unless He intends for us to step out in faith, at least make the attempt Whether we achieve or not, is almost immaterial, the passing of the test lies in whether we try & whether were willing to be obedient Attempt something big that unless God intervenes it is bound to fail Jos 14:14 Num 14:24 Mountain Movers

Moody said The world has yet to see what God can do with one man who is totally committed to Him Moody no education just shoe maker said I'll be that man

1948 student Wheaton College he read Hebrews 1:7 'God maks His ministers a flame of fire He wrote in his diary Am I ignitable? His prayer Saturate me with oil of the Spirit & may I be a flame one that is transient O my soul in me dwells the Spirit whose zeal for God consumes me My me thy fuel flame of God' (Jim Elliot) it cost him his life Jan 9 1956 plus 4 others their lives saved thousands Auca tribe

WINGS of faith (our strength when use them) to overcome means over come not be crushed under Rom 8:37 we try do it in our strength fail cause we function in different plane not earthly We were made to live in the upper atmosphere Trails are made for us to rise above them not be pulled down by them

What's causing us to miss what He has for us SIN snare keeps us from flying Isa 59:2

There is a way of escape from snare traps of fowler Can't fly if carrying burden limited by what we carry – wearily weight never get off ground Many mount up but & that as far as we get Theodore Roosevelt said ' It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done them better The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena whose face is marred with dust, sweat & blood who strives valiantly, who errs, comes short again & again (because there is no effort without error or shortcoming) who does actually try to do the deed, who knows the great enthusiasm the great devotion & spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the worst, if problems to the searchlight of his truth, to submit all our works to the touchstone of his interests & intentions Our relationship & fellowship with God is more important than passing on information to Him & because of this our first duty is to make sure, that we are really in that lofty place by His side, with the right attitude, with nothing in us to prevent Him from hearing us & us from hearing His still small voice It is only from that place of closet intimacy that we now learn what that will is, that we are to pray His will be done on earth as it is in heaven'

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