

## ***HEALING HEARTS UPDATE #4***

*from Ellen McGillis*

As I start this letter, I trust that you are improving in the grieving process, and that the Lord "has comforted you in times of special need. Finally, the long, cold winter has turned to summer and your spirits have regained some encouragement. May I repeat, I trust you will give me info to add to these letters, not just my thoughts to put in these letters. Bible verses, articles, friends that have helped you are some suggestions.

As I got into bed one night, I looked up to the picture that is on the wall. That picture has been a great reminder of God's watching over me. It is an eagle flying over snow covered mountains. I had done some needle work on it several years ago. At the bottom of it, I had added the scripture of Exodus 19:4 b. God had said to Moses tell the people, "I carried you on eagles wings". In the next verse He added, If you obey my commandments, "You above all nations will be my TREASURED POSSESSIONS". We can count on that being written to us also. Can you just imagine being a treasured possession to God?

I went to the library to obtain information on eagles. Then I wanted to see why God would compare Himself for us to understand His magnificence. It is our nation's bird, and we have a certain awe of it. The following information will give you a glimpse of God's power and ability. When you read Geneses you should be very aware of God's abilities, His specific plans, His orderliness. He has repeated His abilities to us in story after story to make it implanted indelibly in our minds. God loves us so much and He wants us to love Him back, "nothing doubting", as the vision to Peter in Acts: 10: 9-20. That is the story of a sheet of unclean animals that Peter was told to eat, referring that the Gospel could be given to the Gentiles.

So I will attempt to give you a brief story of eagles. Their eyes could see for 2 miles. Their wing span, depending on the size of the eagle was from 6.6 feet to 8.5 feet. Their talons were arranged so that they could lift up to 4 times their weight or approximately up to 35 #. Their weight range was from 14 #to 20 #. There are about 50 varieties. Their bones are air-filled, which helps their weight to be less. Their talons are positioned so they can grasp and hold onto their prey.

On most eagles the wings are long and broad allowing both lift and control when soaring. The front edges of the wings are thicker than the trailing edges. This allows air to flow faster over the tops of the wings, allowing the lift. The tapered ends of the primary feathers become widely separated at the wing tips when the eagle fully extends the wings. Therefore, the turbulence is reduced as the air passes over the end of wings making the flight more efficient. The wings may seem to be motionless, but the soaring eagles constantly fine tuning the position of its primaries in response to the change of air flow. Besides their flight control with the wings, they use their tail feathers to assist in steering and stopping, like landing on a fence post going at 40-50 miles per hour, as the African savanna does. That specific eagle may travel for hours and covers hundreds of miles in a day. One eagle migrates from North America to North Africa as the seasons

change. They sit in the tops of a tree and waits for the currant of the wind to take flight. The Bald Eagle, our Nation's bird weights approximately only 14 #.

The skin is insulated with down, small soft feathers along the breast and back which stream-line the eagle, reducing air resistance. Along the base of the bill and around the eyes the feathers also give sensory perception, like a cat's whiskers, in the precision landing.

The God who Masterminds a bird like this is the same God that is watching over you and knowing how your heart may be grieving. He has frequently in scripture made reference to eagles and other creations to help us to grasp His greatness. Another verse that has probably already come to mind is Isa. 40:31 They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. KJV.

I will give you several references regarding eagles:

Jeremiah 49:16 Build the nest as high as the eagle. Jere. 49:22, Look, an eagle will soar and swoop down: spreading it's wings over Boxral.

Ezekiel17:3 & 7 This is what the Sovereign Lord says: A great eagle with powerful wings, long feathers and full plumage of varied colors.

Obediah: 1:4 Though you soar like an eagle and make your nests among the stars.

I hope that thinking of a God and His Son that have given us a glimpse of their greatness, that this will comfort you.

Sincerely,

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