

# the clear word

a publication to encourage a clearer understanding of God's word.

DEC 2010 & JAN 2011

## Life on Wings

By Ern Baxter

In the November 2010 edition of *The Clear Word* we featured Part I of this two-part article from the archives of *New Wine Magazine*.

### Out of the Nest

With one final push he starts to plummet toward the bottom of the canyon – he is sure this is the end. Then out of nowhere there is a swoosh of Mom's mighty wings and Junior is heading for the safety of the ledge on her powerful back, quite relieved. The first time God kicks us out of the nest and catches us before we hit bottom, we gasp, "Oh, thank heaven! I was sure God had let me down that time."

Back on the ledge our would-be king is just getting over being dizzy when Mom starts pushing again. "Not again," he moans as he starts his second tumble. "What if Mom doesn't make it this time?" But

she does. Several trips later Junior begins to get the feeling that Mom is trying to get a point across. Between rides he suddenly remembers Mom's huge wings hovering over the Nest. He looks at his own straggly wings and thinks, *I wonder if...If she does that again, I'm going to give mine a try!* Rest assured he gets another chance. Mom will not stop until Junior finds the gumption to try his own wings.

Little eagles are gangly creatures, wobbling shakily on untested wings. But each desperate plunge brings a little more mastery of his wings. One day he spreads those wings and rather than falling, he finds himself rising up and up and up, riding the mighty air currents far above his ledge home and the nest that confined him. No longer a fledgling begging to become one of the eagles – he will be a king.

Ministers and evangelists often make becoming a Christian as being



born on a satin pillow with a cordon of angels wafting us through life and depositing us at the foot of the celestial throne. Only after we are well settled in our nest do we learn that *God is more intent on the production of character than the provision of our comfort.*

### Living as a King

The Bible land knew two types of eagles: the golden eagle and the imperial eagle. The golden eagle speaks of us as partakers of the divine nature and the imperial eagle speaks of us

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as kings. In the Scripture, the two go hand in hand.

Our divine right is to reign as monarchs in our lives! The circumstances that confound and befuddle the world become launching pads to new heights in God. Satan and his henchmen become the snakes, which an eagle bisects with a slash of his mighty talons or drops from dizzy heights to be crushed on the rocks below. This is our inheritance.

## Mounting Up on Wings

The writer of Proverbs said that among those mysteries of the universe that were too hard to understand, one was the “mystery of an eagle in the air.” The symbolism of this passage is the Christian’s inexplicable potential, which is like the eagle’s, which can fly higher than any other bird and never wiggle a wing. What do I mean by “wiggle a wing?”

Did you notice that the psalmist said that eagles “Mount up,” and not “flap up?” Eagles were not made to go flapping about – they were created to soar high and free. Eagles learn to fly without struggling because they understand the air currents. An eagle will perch on a rock and wait,

testing the winds. When the right wind is blowing, he lifts into the air with a royal scream. Herein is one of the eagle’s secrets in being able to mount up – waiting. Those who wait, says the scripture, will be the ones to mount up. “They that wait upon the Lord will renew their strength.”

## High Flying

Something in an eagle demands he fly higher than all the other birds. He often flies well beyond the view of the naked eye. He rises past telephone wires, where the crows screech, “Cawwww, Cawwww, stop and we’ll give you the latest on the Sunday School superintendent, Cawwww, Cawwww.”



But the eagle calls back, “I’m not interested! I’m going up beyond the clouds, where I can look full into the face of the sun.” Even though an

eagle flies high into the blinding sun, he is equally adapted to dark mountain valleys. He has two sets of eyelids. With earthly eyelids he can see perfectly well at ground level, or he can roll down his heavenly ones and play in the glaring glory of the sun.

As the eagle mounts high above the clouds, he sails those air currents into the very presence of God. You and I are not fashioned for the dirt and pollution. We were not born to be dirty crows on a telephone line. We are appointed to the pure worship of God, to climb into the rare atmosphere of the holy of holies.

## How High Can We Go?

Some ask, “How far can I go, Baxter?” The Bible says, “Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for the Lord took him” (Gen. 5:24, KJV). That eagle flew high! One day he flew so high that God said, “Enoch, it is closer for you to come on up than to go back.”

How high? George Mueller was once told by a captain of a ship on which he was a passenger that the ship could not make New York on schedule because of dense fog that had set in. “We’ll see about that,”



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said Mueller. As Mueller prayed, the fog lifted and the boat hastened toward his waiting appointment in New York. People can say, "I don't believe that God lifts fogs!" They will stay in a fog, but God lifts fogs for people who have the faith to have fogs lifted.

God has made us eagles like Himself and He wants us to fly! All the experiences that we become excited about – our conversion, our baptism in the Holy Spirit, the spiritual gifts – are but a part of our introduction to the supernatural life that demands us to become God-like, because we are partakers of the divine nature.

There is great reward in God for those who will dare to be eagles and learn to soar into what God purposed us to be. God is calling us to press into Him and rise higher in Him. He is calling us to new heights of divine awareness, new decisions, and a new set of priorities. He is calling us to be eagles.

*Ern Baxter (1914-1993) was a long-time leader in the charismatic renewal and pastored one of the largest evangelical churches in Canada for twenty years. This article was featured in New Wine magazine in June 1984 and is used by permission from Charles Simpson Ministries.*



## Flashes of News from the Philippines 2010

By Noralv and Tone Askeland

Here is some more news of the good things the Lord is doing among us in the Philippines. We are grateful to the Lord for all his mercy and goodness. Also the visit of Graham and Ann Deakin has been a blessing.

**The Dap Dap project** is a livelihood project giving help to the church leaders in 20 villages in Mindoro. Instead of giving support, we help them to grow rice and corn to sustain their own living. The field is in a very fertile valley called Dap Dap. Right now they are harvesting the rice and it looks like it will be a plen-

tiful harvest. The Mangyan are used to harvest small areas when convenient and are not used to big operations like this. It takes some time to teach them how to do this.

**We have just** finished a three day seminar for 72 Mangyan leaders at our training campus in Core. In the seminar the focus was on unity and life in the body of Christ. God was moving among us with a Spirit of revelation. These seminars mean a lot to the Mangyans. Just to come away from the villages to our campus is a great blessing to them. As one elderly leader said as he looked around: "This is like coming to paradise, it is just fantastic to be together here."

**Seeds of Hope Centre** is all finished now and we extend our help to the 80 families living at the garbage tip. In addition to the Day care and feeding of the 100 children, we will do "out of school classes" for older children as well as dental and medical help along with the Bible studies. Many of the women living there are pregnant, so our midwives will conduct prenatal checkups, mother classes, immunization, consultations and feeding for the babies and children under the age of four. They all want to deliver their babies at our maternity clinic, but they don't have money for transport to come for check up and mother classes. That is why we do this now in Seeds of Hope Centre.



Grateful Mangyan leaders



Gemma sharing our plans with the mothers



Harvesting is done by sickle



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### New Life Church

Currently meeting at  
Thomas A Stewart Secondary School  
on Armour Road every Sunday  
10:30 am in the cafeteria.  
Coffee time from 10:00 am to 10:20 am

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