

"ON EAGLES WINGS"**Introduction**

1. At Sinai – 3 months after Exodus – God is about to make his covenant with Israel.
2. Here Moses is called up Sinai and given words from God to Israel (See v.3 and 6).
3. These words have a message for all Christians today.
Proof: Peter quotes v.6

1. WE MUST REMEMBER WHAT GOD HAS DONE FOR US

- 1) v.4: "seen": the miracles at the Red Sea...
APPLICATION: We go wrong as soon as we forget the past – we complain / fall to quarrelling / hanker for the world, etc.
DOCTRINE: We should often remember God's goodness to us in the past – see Eph. 2:1f
- 2) v.4: "on eagles wings":
ILLUSTRATION = rescue by a dramatic intervention.
God did this to reassure them because:
 - (i) they were about to see terrific things
 - (ii) to hear how strict is God's law
 - (iii) to travel through a fearful desert
 So: God reassures them beforehand: "It will be all right – I have loved you".
- 3) So we too: need reassurance:
 - (i) the way is long
 - (ii) the journey is uncertain to us
 - (iii) there are enemies who alarm us
 - (iv) God's ways are deep + mysterious**APPLICATION:** O friends, it is a dark day and a long way – but remember what God has done! "On eagles' wings"!

2. WHAT IS MEANT BY "EAGLES' WINGS"?

- 1) We are no longer in the devil's power. By nature we all are
 - (i) like the devil
 - (ii) slaves of the devil
 - (iii) under his power
 But as Christians we are:
 - like God
 - servants of Christ: Romans 6
 - under the control of the Holy Spirit**APPLICATION:** This is not just a change but a complete reversal of what we were.
- 2) We are brought near to God (v.4)
 - (i) the Covenant of Grace
 - (ii) the blood of sprinkling
 - (iii) the new heart
 - (iv) God's law written in our souls
 - (v) God will protect us all the way till we reach the Promised Land.
APPLICATION: Are you discouraged / half-hearted / weary of the long way? Remember all that God has done for us.
- 3) What God has done for us is far greater than in OT times:
 - (i) Christ is our bird of paradise.
 - (ii) to rescue us – see how he had to come down to earth and die.
 - (iii) then see him fly up again to heaven to lift us up there.
ILLUSTRATION: the gospel is a divine rescue-mission: helicopter / commandoes.

3. CHRISTIANS ARE GOD'S "PECULIAR TREASURE"

- 1) See v.5:
 - (i) God's elect, special people on earth
 - (ii) "above all people"
 - (iii) a people whom God treasures like gold**ILLUSTRATION:** the Crown Jewels.

- 2) This truth is further explained: v.6
- (i) "Kingdom of priests": near to God – offering up sacrifices of worship.
 - (ii) "an holy nation": the people of God are a sanctified people among all nations of the world – known and loved by God.
Q. How precious are they?
A. So precious that silver and gold could not redeem them, but only the precious blood of Christ.
- 3) In the light of this, we should love God's word and keep his ways:
v.5:
- "obey my voice" – in the Bible.
 - "keep my covenant" – the gospel and the "gospel way-of-life".

CONCLUSION

However tired or weary we become, we must remember this and go forward day by day till we come to the Promised Land.

ILLUSTRATION: John Bonar of Torphichen.

<p>PSALM</p> <p>106: 1 – 6</p> <p>55: 1 – 8</p> <p>23: 4 - 6</p>
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