

Like an Eagle

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He shielded him and cared for him;
he guarded him as the apple of his eye,

“ like an eagle that stirs up its nest
and hovers over its young,
that spreads its wings to catch them
and carries them on its pinions.

Like an eagle that stirs up its nest and hovers over its young, that spreads its wings to catch them and carries them on its pinions. Deuteronomy 32:11

God describes His actions towards us as an eagle toward its young. We know that the parent eagle builds a strong nest of branches, high in a tree or on a rocky ledge, safe from predators. The nest is made soft and comfortable even if it means the eagle pulls feathers from its own body.



Hovering over its young the eagle provides nourishment, safety, warmth and comfort. There comes a time, however, when as the little ones grow stronger and mature, that the eagle begins to stir up that nest. The purpose for stirring up the nest is to propel the young toward growth, by making their present circumstances uncomfortable.



The young eventually find themselves teetering on the edge of their nest, looking down to the vastness below from its lofty height. Imagine their shock as their own parent gives them the nudge that sends them hurtling into the unknown. The beauty of the illustration lies in the fact that the eagle never loses sight of the eaglet, but spreads its wings ready to catch them and carry them back to safety. Willingly the eagle does this over and over, untiringly, until its young can soar on its own wings.

In our own lives, God asks us to find our refuge in His nest, on a “rock that is higher than I”. There He nurtures us as we grow like Him. Then He starts to disrupt our comfortable status by allowing heartache, illness, tragedy, disappointment, etc. and pushes us out of the nest. At times it seems God has abandoned us. Not so, His wings are spread wide, as he hovers over us, ready to catch and return us to our Refuge.



Each of us, has known times of comfort and nourishment, when all is going well and we feel the Lord's blessings raining down on us. However, we've also experienced what it feels like to be kicked from the nest and be hurtling downward at an alarming speed and wondering what our future holds.

God is unchanging . . . He still hovers over us and swoops down to carry us and give us a refuge found only in Him. What safer place is there to be?

God's goal for us is that we will soar with His spirit providing the wind under our wings.