LESSONS FROM RICK JOYNER'S BOOK "THE FINAL QUEST"

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Recap of previous lesson (Humility and Pride)

- If we are not humble, we cannot really see as God would want us.
- Pride guarantees defeat and failure because pride comes before destruction.
- Having no interest in the Word of God is sure evidence of pride.
- No one is beyond falling. It can be avoided by putting our trust in nothing else but God.
- Humility is the highest rank in the Kingdom of God. Go for it.

Today's Topic: <u>DISCERNING THE LORD'S BODY</u>

Theme Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:12; 11:29-30

On the horizon I saw a great white cloud approaching. Hope rose in me just from seeing it. Soon it had filled the whole atmosphere with hope, just as the rising sun chases away the darkness of night. As it grew closer, I recognized the great white eagles that had flown from the Tree of Life. They began landing on the mountain, taking their places on every level beside the companies of warriors.

I carefully approached the eagle that had landed near me because his presence was so awesome. When he looked at me with his penetrating eyes, I knew I could hide nothing from him. His eyes were so fierce and resolute that I trembled. Chills ran through me just from looking at him. Before I could even ask, he answered me.

"You want to know who we are. We are the hidden prophets who have been kept for this hour. We are the eyes of those who have been given the divinely powerful weapons. We have been shown all that the Lord is doing, and all that the enemy is planning against you. We have scoured the earth, and together we know all that needs to be known for the battle."

"Did you not see the battle that just took place?" I asked with as much irritation as I dared to express. "Couldn't you have helped those warriors who were just taken captive?"

"Yes," the eagle responded. "We saw it all, and we could have helped if they had wanted our help. We would have helped them by holding them back, telling them to sit and be still. But we can only fight in the battles that the Father commands, and we can only help those who believe in us. Only those who receive us as prophets can receive the prophets' reward, or the benefit of our services.

1) Only do what the Father commands, 2) Do not who miss help the help you need. Luke 13:34-35; 1 Samuel 8:7; 1 Corinthians 11:29-30

Those who were ambushed did not yet have the mantle you are wearing, and those who do not have that mantle cannot understand who we are. We all need one another, including these here who are still wounded, and many others whom you do not yet know."

As I talked to the eagle, I started to think like him. After this short discussion I could see into the eagle's heart and I began to know him like he knew me. The eagle recognized this.

"You have some of our gifts," the eagle noted, "though they are not very well developed. You have not used them much. I am here to awaken these gifts in you (1 Timothy 1:6), and in many others like you, and I will teach you how to use them. In this way, our communication will be sure. Unless we have sure communication, we will all suffer many unnecessary losses, not to mention missing many great opportunities for victory."

"Where did you just come from?" I asked.

"We eat snakes," the eagle replied. "The enemy is bread for us. Our sustenance comes from doing the Father's will (John 4:31-34), which is to destroy the works of the devil. (NB: 1 John 3:8) Every snake that we eat helps to increase our vision. Every stronghold of the enemy that we tear down strengthens us so we can soar higher and stay in the air longer. We have just come from a feast, devouring the serpents of Shame which have bound many of your brothers and sisters. They will be here soon. They are coming with the eagles we left behind to help them find the way and to protect them from the enemy's counterattacks."

These eagles were very sure of themselves, but not cocky. They knew who they were and what they were called to do (John 18:37; Hebrews 10:7; Psalms 139:16).

"We are here because you need us," the eagle replied. "We are also here because we need you. You have been given gifts I do not have, and I have been given gifts you do not have. You have experienced things I have not experienced, and I have experienced things that you have not. The eagles have been given to you until the end, and you have been given to us. I will be very close to you for a time, and then you must receive other eagles in my place. Every eagle is different. It is together, not individually, that we have been given to know the secrets of the Lord."

(1Corinthians 2:16, 13:9; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 12)