

CHILE - A Rescue Analogy

Thirty-three men were far below the surface of the earth, trapped with no way out and their futures looked **extremely bleak**.

In spite of their hopeless situation, **they cried out to God** for His salvation. Chile, as a nation, prayed like never before, hoping their trapped miners would be found and rescued.

A **perfect plan** was put into place. It was simple yet required a lot of sacrifice. No expense was spared in order to accomplish this task. A capsule, the size of an average man, made the way of escape possible. All of Chile, joined by nations around the globe, watched as the perfectly prepared and tested capsule was being lowered from above.

Then the scene shifted and we waited anxiously to get the first glimpse of it entering into the miners' dark entrapment. Finally, after a time of anticipation, the capsule appeared and a **special helper** emerged. The helper tells each miner what they must do to be saved from their desolate abyss. When each individual chose to trust this simple looking apparatus to save him, he entered into it and the door was closed and he was secured.

There was **nothing** for him to do on his own, but to **trust** the capsule to deliver him safely. Due to the fact that he had been so long in darkness, he wore special glasses to protect his eyes from the light he was about to experience.

Finally he reached the surface. There he was greeted with jubilant cheers, hugs from their loved ones and a warm greeting from dignitaries. As a nation they shouted, **thanks to God they are rescued**.

This story is a **perfect picture** of God's plan of salvation through Jesus Christ in spite of Satan's opposition.



The trapped miners represent us in our natural sinful condition, living in darkness without hope. Chile's joint effort and hope as a country for their trapped miners to be rescued, could represent the local church working together and placing their hope in a loving God who desires that no one should perish, but rather have everlasting life.

God hears the cry of every heart and has at His disposal a multitude of angels assigned to help His Church. **The perfect capsule, once shiny and bright in all its glory, became dirty and scarred as it gave itself to each one of those yearning to be saved.** In the same way, **Jesus** gave up His glorious state in heaven and **took upon Himself all of our filthiness.**

We have also been given a **special helper**, the Holy Spirit, who helps us to see the truth in God's word of how we can be saved. When we believe His word we can by faith **enter into Jesus, our rescue vessel**, and He will wrap His arms tightly around us and lift us out of the darkness into light and the jubilant celebration of His loving embrace.

Just as the cheers went up for each rescued miner there is much, much more celebration in heaven for each sinner that is rescued and saved.

By the way, the **last one to leave the scene below was the special helper.** This could represent the Holy Spirit leaving a dark forsaken earth as the result of the rapture of the Church.

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"There is a Mine for Silver..." Job 28:1

Chilean miner Carlos Barrios (L), 24, waves after being brought to surface from the San Jose mine, near Copiapo, Chile, on October 13, 2010. Chilean miners dramatically emerged from 69 days of underground imprisonment, as their joyous escape was aired non-stop on television stations around the globe. (Photo credit HUGO INFANTE/AFP/Getty Images)