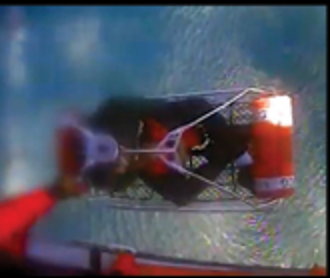
COAST GUARD RESCUE

by John Fitzpatrick









HEADLINE: Coast Guard rescues three people and a dog after their vessel sinks west of Lincoln City.



On September 13, 2021, a 44-foot commercial fishing boat named *Royal* sank about 45 miles off Lincoln City, Oregon.

At 2:00 p.m., the North Bend Coast Guard received a distress signal from *Royal's* EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon) and dispatched an MH-65 Dolphin helicopter from the Newport, Oregon, Air Facility.

At 4:00 p.m., the air crew located a debris field and a life raft roughly 6 miles from the beacon's last transmitted location. A rescue swimmer was deployed from the hovering aircraft and began assisting with the rescue. Within 30 minutes the three survivors and the dog were all hoisted safely into the helicopter and were on their way to awaiting family and friends at the Air Facility in Newport. It was determined that no medi-

cal attention was needed due to their stable condition. The rescue was a success!

Coast Guard Lieutenant Robert Plaff, the pilot and flight commander during the rescue, was quoted saying, "Their preparation and readiness for a worst case scenario saved their lives." Those that were saved and those that did the thrilling rescue will never forget that day.

As we reflect on life and its uncertainties, we are reminded from the Bible that each one of us must also be rescued, or saved. Not from some physical peril, but from our lost, perishing condition.

In Luke 19:10 we read, **"The Son of man (Jesus Christ) is come to seek and to save that which was lost."** Because sin has distanced us from God, mankind is drifting about lost, helpless to save themselves, and in need of a Saviour. There is One who wants to save your soul and rescue you from Hell. He wants to give you the forgiveness of your sins, and an eternal home in Heaven with Him.

Sin is mankind's biggest problem and we

need to be rescued from its consequences. If not forgiven, sin will keep you out of Heaven forever. On the cross, Jesus Christ paid once for all, the cost of this so great salvation that is freely offered to everyone. The Scriptures say, **"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly"** (ROMANS 5:6). Have you ever trusted Him as your Saviour? Can you remember the day that you were saved? If not, why not come to Him? He is ready, willing and able to save you. **Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved** (ACTS 16:31).

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." JOHN 3:16

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