GREAT HISTORIC RESCUE



By John Fitzpatrick

On April 3, 2026, a USAF F-15E Strike Eagle was shot down by Iranian forces, with both airmen ejecting safely. The pilot was picked up seven hours after the crash by rescue crews, while the severely injured weapons officer, a colonel simply known as Bravo, remained missing. Bravo climbed 7000 feet to hide in a crevice in the Zagros Mountains, where he strategically used a locator beacon to signal his comrades. His words were simply, "I'm hurt. I'm moving. God is good."



The search was on, but the US wasn't the only one searching for the missing colonel - so was the enemy. A bounty was placed on his head. With Iranian forces and nomadic tribesmen closing in on him, the CIA diverted their attention with claims that Bravo was found elsewhere. Meanwhile, rescuers reached him and brought him to safety after having hidden in a crevice in the mountains for over 24 hours.

This is considered one of the most daring combat rescue missions in US history: 64 fighter jets, four bombers, 48 refuelers, 13 rescue aircraft, and over 100 ground forces were involved in rescuing the colonel. And thankfully, all involved in the rescue came home safely. Can we not say with Bravo, "God is good?"

The United States military has a wonderful tradition – "no man is left behind, dead or alive", so many resources were used; much

money was spent; and many lives were put at risk to rescue that one desperate person. However, there is an even greater rescue mission recorded for us in the Bible. It's the greatest rescue mission ever made - one more costly, more lasting and more loving – to rescue you:

"GOD COMMENDETH [DEMONSTRATED] HIS LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT, WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US"

(ROMANS 5:8).

Each of us is a lost sinner, heading towards eternal punishment for sin, but God sent His Son, the Lord Jesus, to be the Saviour of the world. On the cross He fully paid the debt for our sins, suffering the punishment we deserved, and satisfying a righteous God. Anyone who trusts in His finished work for them will have their sins forgiven and a home in Heaven.

Jesus Christ gave everything - even His very life - for the greatest rescue of all time. Luke 19:10 says, **"FOR THE SON OF MAN IS COME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST."** Have you ever realized that He is seeking you and that you're the lost one He came to rescue? Salvation is real; it lasts; and it's available to you. Not by what you have done, but by what the Lord Jesus did on the cross. Trust in His finished work today and be saved.



INTERNATIONAL BIBLE HOUSE
PUBLISHING SOCIETY

WWW.IBHGOSPEL.COM



johnfitz2011@gmail.com