Search and Rescue

Craig Berg, age 70, traveled to Isle Royal National Park, a remote island in Lake Superior near the Canadian Border, on August 27, 2026. His plan was to go on a solo hike in the park for a few days. When he failed to return home on September 5, he was reported missing. A vast search and rescue mission was initiated.

Finally, after a week had passed, some hikers spotted Berg and alerted the authorities. Michigan State Police foot patrols and K-9 units reached him. They discovered that he was injured and suffering from hypothermia. A Coast Guard helicopter and crew arrived. The crew hoisted him from the ground in a basket and flew him to a nearby airport where his condition was evaluated and treated.

Multiple agencies and resources were involved in the rescue effort. In addition to the U.S. Coast Guard and Michigan State police, the search involved the National Park Service, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Keweenaw County Sheriff's Office, Wisconsin State Patrol and Minnesota Department of Public Safety, according to Lt. Ben Eckola, a Michigan State Police public information officer. "We're also thankful to the fellow hikers who helped, Isle Royale Seaplanes, and No One Left Behind K9 Search and Rescue. Everyone's efforts played an important part in finding Craig," Eckola said in a statement.

All of these efforts were made to save one man, and they were successful.

Another great search and rescue mission is ongoing. It is orchestrated by God, and YOU are the subject that He wants to save. Actually, God "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4).

You – as well as rest of us – have gone astray. We're like wandering sheep. Isaiah the prophet described our situation well: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way" (Isaiah 53:6). As a result, we are lost in our sin (Romans 3:23; 6:23).

But God loves us so much, that He sent His Son to rescue us. Jesus had to die in order to save us. "He died for our sins" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4) so that we can be forgiven and receive the gift of eternal life (Ephesians 1:7; Romans 6:23).

God will save and give eternal life to those who place their faith and trust in Jesus (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31),

confess Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). He will continue to cleanse from sin those who continue to walk in the light of His Word (1 John 1:7-9).

Reflecting on the multiple agencies, resources, and people that were involved in his rescue effort, Berg could ask, “All of this was done for me?” The answer is “yes.”

Consider what God has done in order to save us. You can ask, “All of this was done for me?” The answer is a resounding and loving “Yes!”

-- David A. Sargent

* Information gleaned from “Missing 70-year-old hiker rescued after disappearing for a week in remote national park” by Bonny Chu of Fox News, www.foxnews.com.