Dying in Vain

by Bill Crews

It has happened many times. Someone risks and then loses his life in an attempt to save someone or something. At times the attempt is successful, but the rescuer loses his life. At other times, both die. Many people would risk their lives in an attempt to save another person, but we should certainly count the cost before risking our lives to save an animal. (Many have died in car crashes simply because they swerved suddenly in an attempt to miss an animal crossing the road.) The worst case I have ever read about occurred many years ago, just out of Cairo, Egypt. Six people drowned in a 60-foot well, and it all began when a chicken fell in, and an 18-year-old farmer descended in an attempt to recover the chicken. One by one five others went into the well and all, including the young farmer, drowned. The six bodies were recovered later, and so was the chicken, alive. What a tragedy and a waste. We need to be brave and compassionate, but not foolish. Remember that our Savior died for everyone ever lost in sin (1 John 2:2; 1 Timothy 2:6; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; John 3:16), and He did not die in vain. His blood is able to cleanse all of the sins of all mankind (Hebrews 9:14, 26; 10:12), and many have taken advantage of that. But if anyone lives and dies in sin, is he not thereby saying that Christ died in vain for him? Do not let His death for you be in vain.

314201