

**Wednesday, May 25, 2016**

Many years ago, a rescue crew was organized near Chicago. They rescued those drowning in Lake Michigan. One day, a large ship was wrecked off the shore. The young men plunged into the angry waters to rescue those who were going down. Soon they all returned, but one. Finally he came in bringing one victim with him. He returned immediately to the lake, rescuing another, and then another, and so on until he had rescued ten. During this time his mates had built a fire and were warming themselves, all the time trying to convince the young hero to stop, that he had done his duty. He was completely exhausted, and rested for a while. But soon, he again plunged into the water and brought another man. He was now completely spent. And during the night he died from exposure. But as he lay dying, he kept repeating, in a low serious tone:

"Did I do my best?"

Instantly his friend said: "Yes, you did do your best. You saved eleven, but you have lost your life."

"But," said he, "did I do my best, my dead level best?"

"Yes, you did your dead level best."

Then a smile seemed to come over his face as if to say: "Then I am satisfied to die."

**Matthew 24:43-44 "But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into. 44" For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.**

The end will be coming for each of us. We don't know the day or the hour, but it will come. The question is, will you be ready. Will you stand before the Lord on that day and hear Him say, "Well done, you did your 'dead level best;' enter into my rest."