



8.8 EARTHQUAKE & TSUNAMI

CHILE - SOUTHAMERICA

February 27, 2010 3:34 AM



Following the colossal 8.8 Earthquake in Chile, a Tsunami, comprised of 3 to 5 waves of over 15 to 20 meters high, devastated several coastal towns between Valparaiso and Talcahuano-Concepción.



Coastal residents ran for their lives to higher land after the Earthquake struck (3:34 AM). However, those fleeing only had 10 to 20 minutes before the giant waves roared ashore. It is uncertain how many people lost their lives (500 to 1,000). Difficult communication, a lack of water and no electricity made it almost impossible to know the real gravity of the situation and authorities believe the casualties of this terrible Act of God will be greater than 1,000 dead.



The Earthquake devastated both old and new construction.
There are more than 2.5 million people without a home.

Chile has survived many big earthquakes and was relatively well prepared for more disasters in the future.
However, this quake measured far beyond any preparations that could have been anticipated by authorities.



Highways and roads are destroyed from Santiago to Concepción, making the delivery of supplies, aid, and assistance extremely challenging.



Coastal towns for over 800
kms literally disappeared

Electrical facilities were
destroyed.

Power is returning slowly as
rebuilding continues.



People are left with only the clothes they could gather before they ran for their lives.