



NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

“The light that shines the farthest should shine the brightest at home.” Charles Stambaugh

Lighthouse

Many people are fascinated with lighthouses. My mother-in-law has many lighthouse items. She has a jacket with over 20 different pictures of them. One summer we vacationed at the Outer Banks. There we visited the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse which is the world's tallest brick lighthouse at a staggering 208 feet tall. We also saw the second oldest US and the smallest at 65 feet the Ocracoke Island Lighthouse.

The forerunners of lighthouses proper were beacon fires kindled on hilltops, the earliest references to which are contained in writings from 8th century. By 1820, there were an estimated 250 major lighthouses in the world. The first revolving-beam lighthouse was at Carlsten, near Marstrand, Sweden, in 1781. The electric-filament lamp, which came into general use in the 1920s, is now the standard illuminant. With a 250-watt lamp, illumination of several hundred thousand candlepower can be readily obtained. For more on lighthouses see www.britannica.com/technology/lighthouse.

“The song Lighthouse was written in 1970 by Ronnie Hinson who was a teenager at the time. He and his siblings were at The Pentecostal Tabernacle rehearsing for an upcoming concert and were searching for new material. Ronnie went to the downstairs bathroom with the intention of coming back with their new original hit song, and they all had a good laugh. He was gone for several minutes and returned to the sanctuary with a piece of toilet paper with the title The Lighthouse. As he began to sing someone grabbed it, wadded it up, laughed and told them to get back to the hymnals. His brother Kenny, their guitar player, collected that piece of toilet paper out of the trash as he had an idea. When he started playing and singing the presence of the Lord filled the sanctuary, and from that point on it was a hit.”¹

“This is not the end of the story because at the time Ronnie wrote this song he had never laid eyes on a lighthouse before. He truly did not understand what was so special about this song, until he jumped on his bicycle and rode 30 miles to find a lighthouse. He parked his bike and climbed up on a sand dune and for the first time to his knowledge saw the Pigeon Point Lighthouse in Santa Cruz, CA. As he sat staring at the lighthouse that was so desolate looking, he thought, “What a scene,” there stood the lighthouse filled with hope in the middle of all that dreary hopelessness of the gray ocean. He then looked at the words written on that piece of toilet paper and with tears filled eyes he knew that it was something that God had orchestrated.”¹

“Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.” John 8:12 “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” PS 119:105 “But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” I John 1:7 “In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.” John 1:4 “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” Matt 5:16



Charles L Stambaugh



And I thank God for the lighthouse
And I thank God for the lighthouse
I owe my life to Him,
For Jesus is the lighthouse
And from the rocks of sin
He has shone the light around me,
That I may clearly see
If it wasn't for the lighthouse
Where would this ship be.

[Listen to the Lighthouse song.](#)

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