

February 23, 2020

Scott's Thoughts



Some years ago I started a collection of Lighthouses. I do not remember how it got started but I now have thirty or more cups, pictures, and miniatures of lighthouses from around the world. I even have a set of coasters

with a picture of a lighthouse. As I think about what a lighthouse is and try to relate what that means to me, it gears my mind to several different directions.

One of those directions is expressed in a song titled "The Lighthouse" written by Ronnie Hinson in 1970. It pains me to think that was fifty years ago. I have heard the song sung by many different artists over the years and it never fails to stir my heart. I have seen several different lighthouses over the years and appreciate what they were designed for. The simplistic design of just showing light to warn those on the sea of a dangerous shore that could destroy a ship and cost many lives.

In order for a lighthouse to be any good, it has to do only one thing - shine the light. In years past there was someone who lived at the lighthouse and made sure the light was on EVERY time it was needed. Most lighthouses have either been replaced by high tech towers or the ones still standing have been automated. The technology has replaced what was once an incredible commitment by some really dedicated people.

As I think back to the lighthouses of old, I'm reminded of Matthew who wrote these words. "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so

that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16, ESV). We are to be a lighthouse to the world. Yes, but more than that, we are to be a lighthouse to those we come in contact with every day, yes, in Newkirk.

The song I mentioned has a verse that says. "Everyone that lives around us says, tear that old lighthouse down, The big ships don't sail this way anymore, There's no use in it standing around." Our society seems to be moving in the direction away from the lighthouse. Another verse in the song says, "There's a lighthouse on the hillside that overlooks life's sea. When I'm tossed it sends out a light that I might see. And the light that shines in darkness now will safely lead me home, If it wasn't for the lighthouse, my ship would sail no more." I was moving in the dark direction for many years. I did not have a "vision" of light in the night. My vision was in a man who just kept coming back to shine light time after time. I am grateful for that Lighthouse that the good Lord put in my life. The Lighthouse and the light are two different things. Mike led me to the light but Jesus is the light that saved me.

"Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."" (John 8:12, ESV)

Thanks for listening and keep on shining
—Scott