
THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER

A pastor friend of mine was a Coast Guardsman in the State of Washington. He gave me the following story:

“At Cape Disappointment a young Lighthouse Keeper, in the late 1800’s, went up into the lighthouse to trim the wicks of the lamps and to clean the salt off the windows late at night in a howling gale. He first went outside to clean the salt off the windows. The wind slammed the door shut and it locked behind him. He was trapped outside on the narrow walkway high above the waves breaking over the rocks below. He realized that if he did not get back inside the lamps would run out of fuel and the light would go out leaving the passing ships to wreck upon the rocky shore.

Pelted by the rain and blowing spray, blown back and forth by wind, he went hand over hand down the lightening rod cable in the darkness, soaked and exhausted. During the descent he was repeatedly blown out away from the tower and over the dashing waves. Near the bottom his grip gave out and he fell onto the rocks below hitting his head and briefly losing consciousness. When he regained consciousness, he managed to struggle to the tower entrance at ground level and crawled up the steep stairway and refilled the lamps just before the fuel ran out. He kept the Lighthouse Keeper’s motto: “The light must not go out!”

This is a great story of dedication and determination to keep the light burning. May we be as committed to keeping the light of truth shining brightly in Hemet and surrounding areas!

JdonJ