

## Seeing the Light

A ship's captain looked into the dark night and saw a light dead ahead. He immediately told his signalman to send a message directing the other ship to change course to avoid a collision. But the reply came back advising that the captain should alter *his* course instead. Full of anger and a sense of his own importance, the captain sent another signal, saying, "I am the captain of a battleship. I insist you alter your course!" The response? "I am the keeper of a lighthouse; I suggest you alter yours."

That captain was proud of his rank and high position. He apparently liked throwing his weight around, too. But he had no idea what he was up against. A lighthouse keeper might seem less important by some standards, but he was in the right. He spoke from a position of unmovable strength, strength that could take down the most powerful ship on earth. He was also trying to help the ship's captain find his way, to see the light, discover his error, and change course while there was still time.

*The eyes of the arrogant man will be humbled and the pride of men brought low; the Lord alone will be exalted in that day. The Lord Almighty has a day in store for all the proud and lofty... The arrogance of man will be brought low and the pride of men humbled; **the Lord alone will be exalted...** (Isaiah 2:11-12, 17)*

We hear a lot about pride these days – the celebration of human ideas and genius, our right to abandon the moral constraints of the past, our power to live as we please, to change culture and the perception of what is right and true. But guess what? Although we may each see ourselves as a powerful force, the proud captain of our own lives, God is the lighthouse on solid ground. He is steadfast, unchanging, and immovable. Any ideas we have about being able to ignore Him or remodel Him to suit ourselves are mere illusions. If we find ourselves at odds with the God of the Bible, we are the ones who must alter course to avoid running onto the rocks. *There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.* (Proverbs 16:25)

But since God doesn't desire that any one of us should end in death and disaster, He sent his Son to guide us. Jesus, *the Light of the World* (John 8:12), came to show us the way safely through this dark world to a secure harbor. Turn your back on pride, which only leads to destruction, and listen to Him.

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