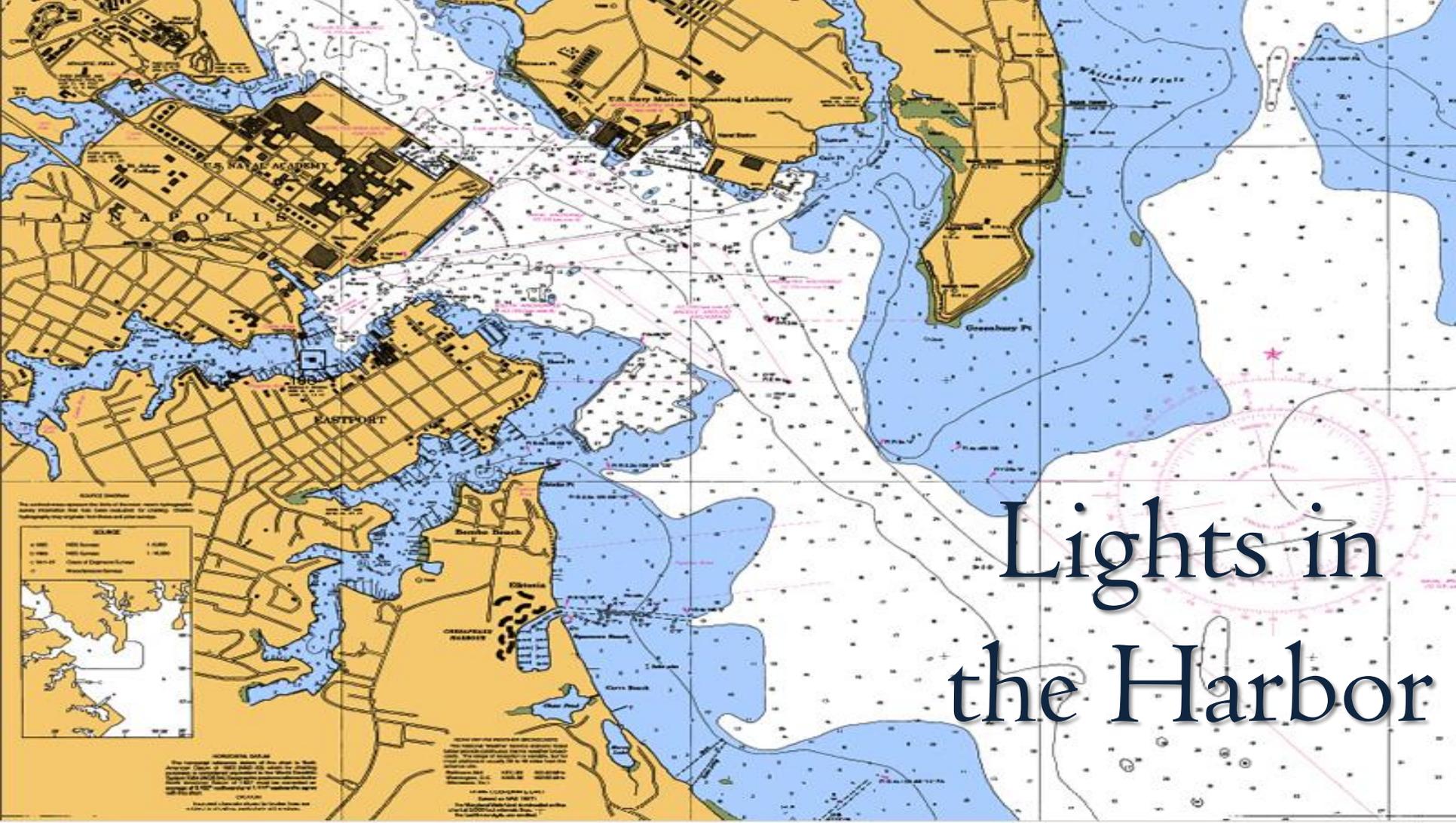


Discerning God's Will

A foggy landscape with a lighthouse and a house. A beam of light from the lighthouse illuminates the scene. The text "Discerning God's Will" is written in a white, serif font with a drop shadow at the top of the image.

In the Fog

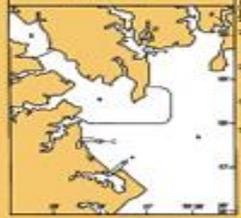


Lights in the Harbor

SCALE

The scale of this chart is 1:50,000. The scale of the inset chart is 1:100,000.

1:50,000	1:100,000
1:50,000	1:100,000
1:50,000	1:100,000
1:50,000	1:100,000



REMARKS

This chart is based on the latest available information. It is subject to change without notice. For the latest information, consult the latest edition of the Sailing Directions for the Pacific Coast of North America, Volume 1, San Francisco Bay, published by the U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office, Washington, D.C.



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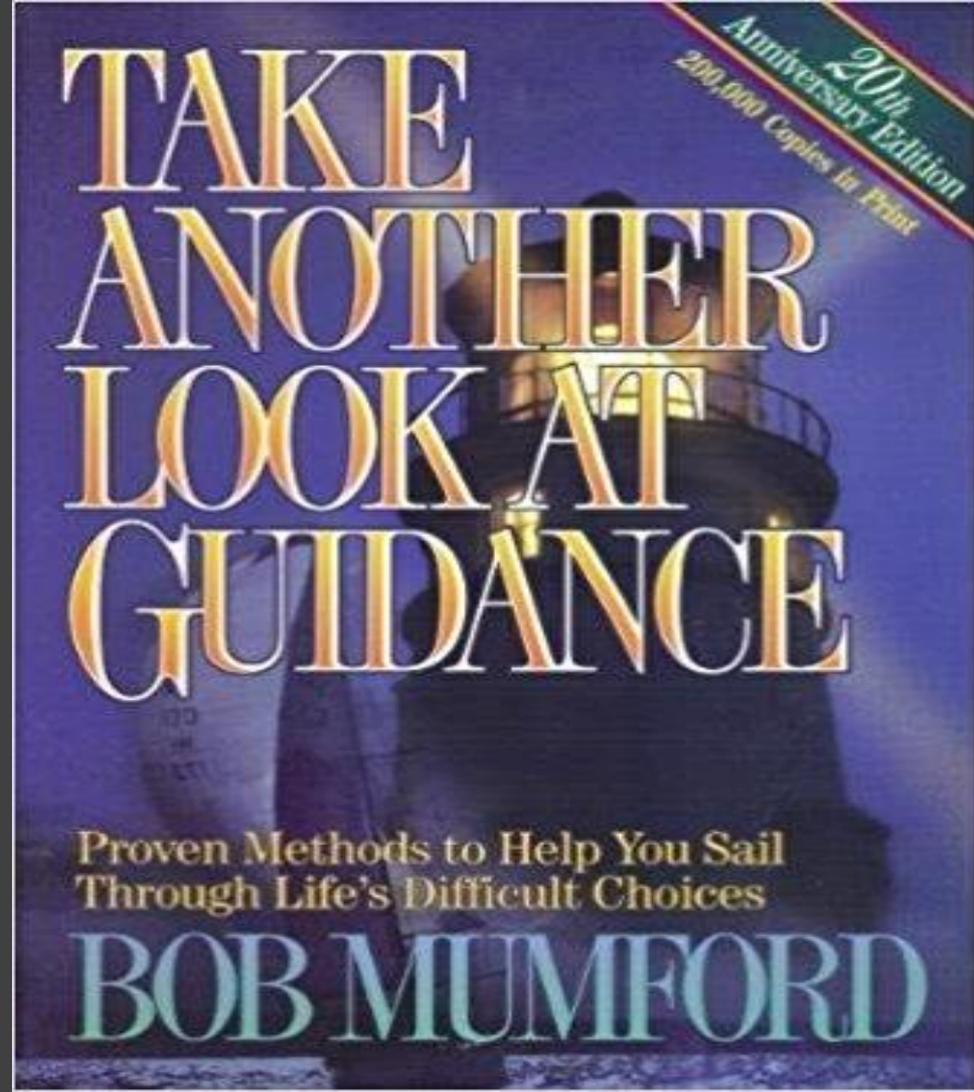
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Lighted
USCG
Buoy

Boston
Harbor

A well-
known
example...



Usual Lights in the Harbor

- The Clear Teaching of Scripture
- Promptings of the Holy Spirit
- Circumstances of Life
- Godly Counsel
- Congruity with my Gifts/Calling

The Clear Teaching of Scripture

The Clear Teaching of Scripture

¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. ¹⁷ If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty’s hand.

The Clear Teaching of Scripture

¹⁸ But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”

Daniel 3:16-18

Prompting of the Holy Spirit

Prompting of the Holy Spirit

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Prompting of the Holy Spirit

¹¹ From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. ¹² From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.

Circumstances of Life

Circumstances of Life

²¹ Balaam got up in the morning, saddled his donkey and went with the Moabite officials.

²² But God was very angry when he went, and the angel of the LORD stood in the road to oppose him. Balaam was riding on his donkey, and his two servants were with him. ²³ When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD standing in the road with a drawn sword in his hand,

Circumstances of Life

...it turned off the road into a field. Balaam beat it to get it back on the road. ²⁴ Then the angel of the LORD stood in a narrow path through the vineyards, with walls on both sides.

²⁵ When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, it pressed close to the wall, crushing Balaam's foot against it. So he beat the donkey again. ²⁶ Then the angel of the LORD moved on ahead...

Circumstances of Life

and stood in a narrow place where there was no room to turn, either to the right or to the left.

²⁷ When the donkey saw the angel of the LORD, it lay down under Balaam, and he was angry and beat it with his staff. ²⁸ Then the LORD opened the donkey's mouth, and it said to Balaam, "What have I done to you to make you beat me these three times?" *Numbers 22:21-28*

Godly Counsel

Godly Counsel

It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and of a kind that even pagans do not tolerate: A man is sleeping with his father's wife. ² And you are proud! Shouldn't you rather have gone into mourning and have put out of your fellowship the man who has been doing this? ³ For my part, even though I am not physically present, I am with you in spirit.

As one who is present with you in this way, I have already passed judgment in the name of our Lord Jesus on the one who has been doing this. ⁴ So when you are assembled and I am with you in spirit, and the power of our Lord Jesus is present, ⁵ hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.

I Corinthians 5:1-5

Congruity with Gifts/Calling

Congruity with Gifts/Calling

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.

Congruity with Gifts/Calling

³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.” ⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group.

Congruity with Gifts/Calling

They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. *Acts 6:1-6*

Final Thoughts:

The Necessity of Faith

The Necessity of Faith

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for...

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. *Hebrews 11:2,6*

Let us pray...

