

BEYOND SAND CASTLES

Castle dreams rise on the beaches of youth,
Fashioned with yearning
And formed with a thrill. . . .
Can they survive the commandments of Truth?
Ocean's reality,
Waves of fatality,
Test the centrality:
God, or self-will?

Player in puddles, now weary of sand,
Towers all crumbled,
With tumbled down walls,
Here comes the Lord of the sea and the land:
Searching the sand for you,
Reaching His hand for you,
Preaching what's planned for you,
Sore from your falls. . . .

Look at the lighthouse far off from the beach,
Founded in bedrock
And firm in its goals,
Strong against breakers, determined to teach:
Lighting with purity,
Fighting obscurity,
Finding maturity:
Caring for souls.

— *David L. Hatton, 12/8/1994*