



# THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

UNDERSTANDING WHAT JESUS WANTS HIS FOLLOWERS TO BE AND TO DO

Week 3

A Christian's Influence.

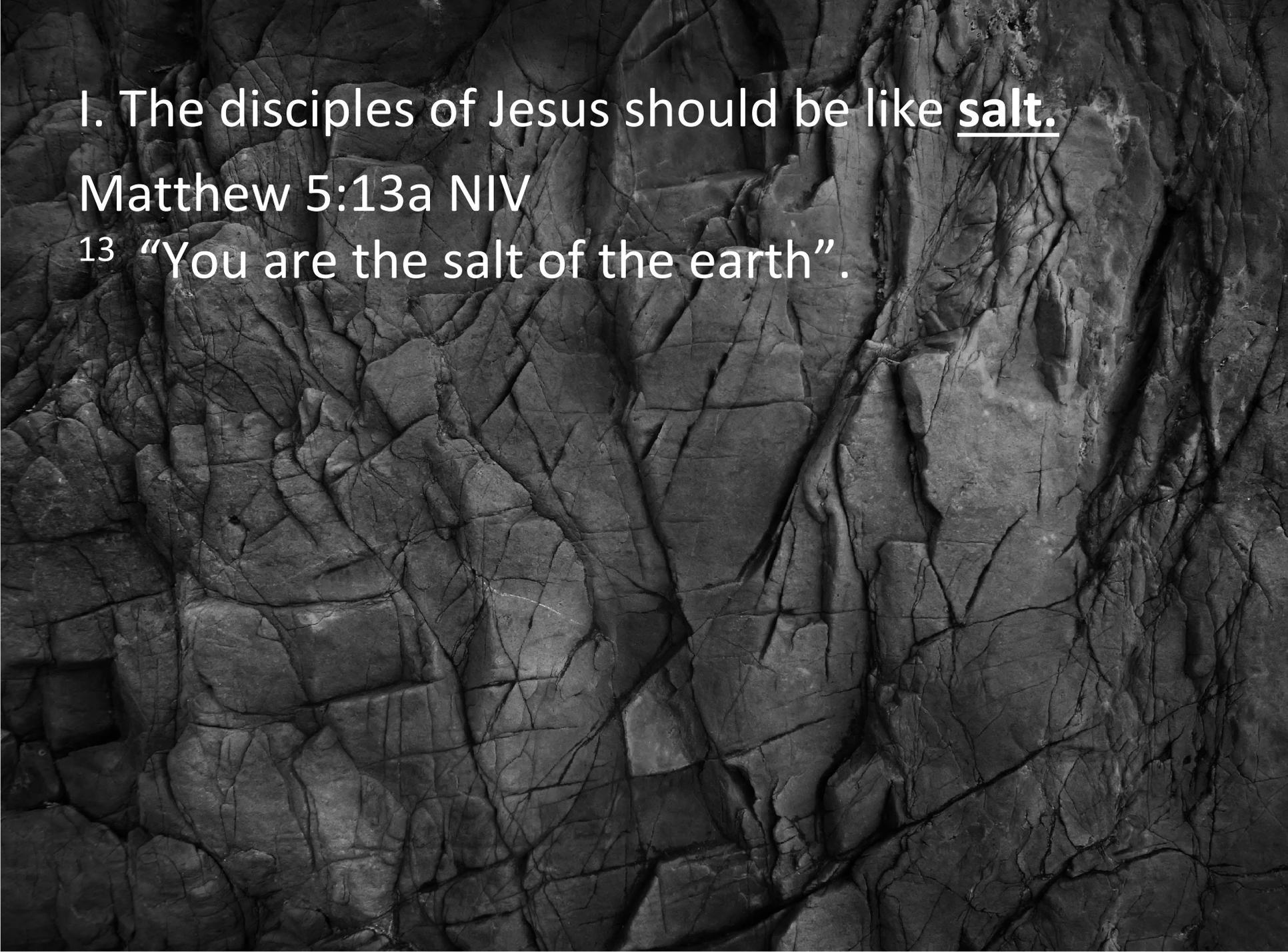
A Christian's Influence.

The background of the image is a dark, monochromatic texture that resembles crumpled paper or aged leather. The surface is covered in a complex network of fine, irregular lines and creases, creating a sense of depth and tactile quality. The lighting is subtle, highlighting the ridges and shadows of the folds. In the upper left quadrant, the text "A Christian's Influence." is written in a clean, white, sans-serif font, standing out against the dark, textured background.

## Matthew 5:13-16 NIV

<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot”.

<sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven”.



I. The disciples of Jesus should be like salt.

Matthew 5:13a NIV

<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth”.

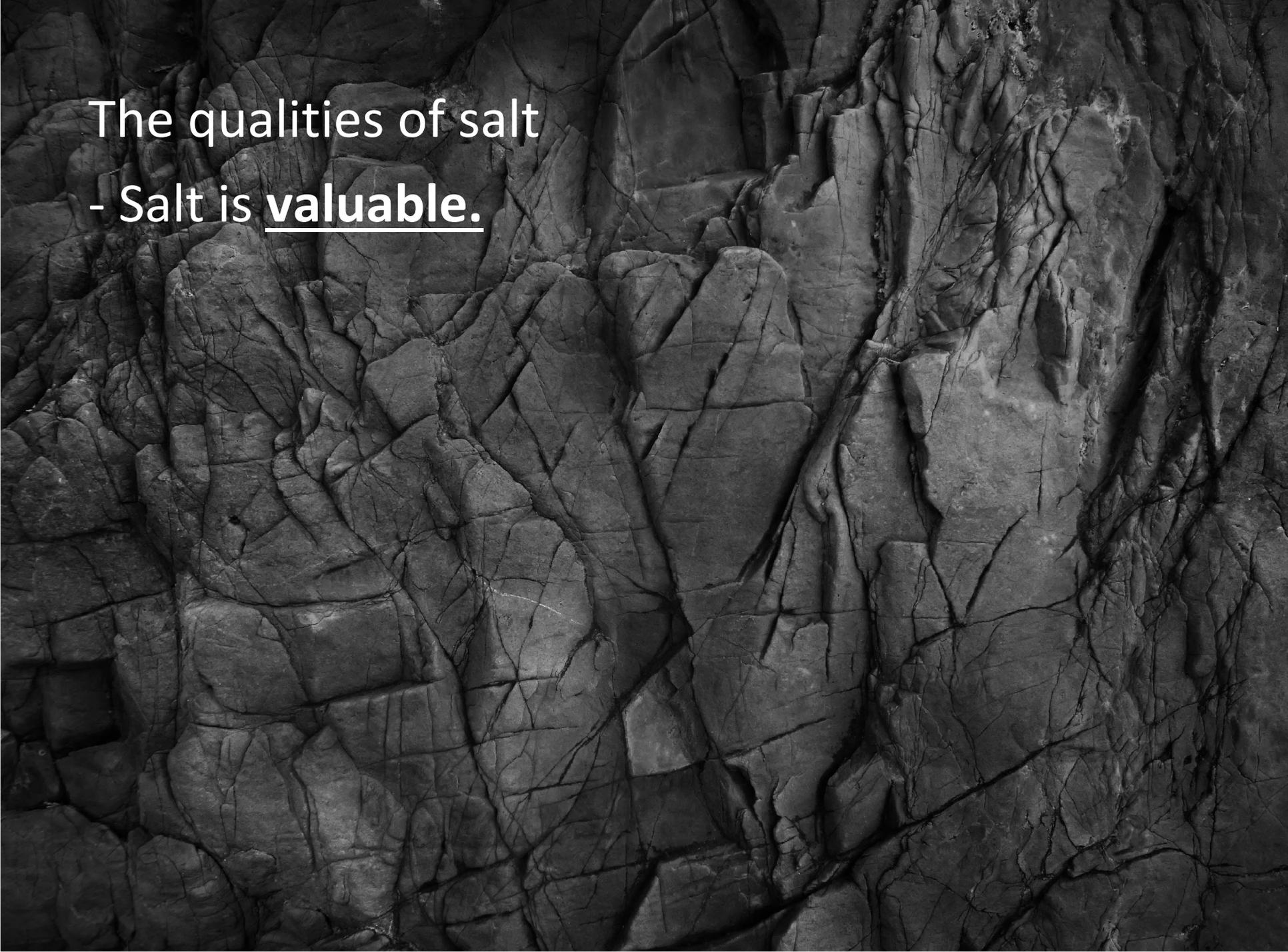
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Matthew 5:13a NIV

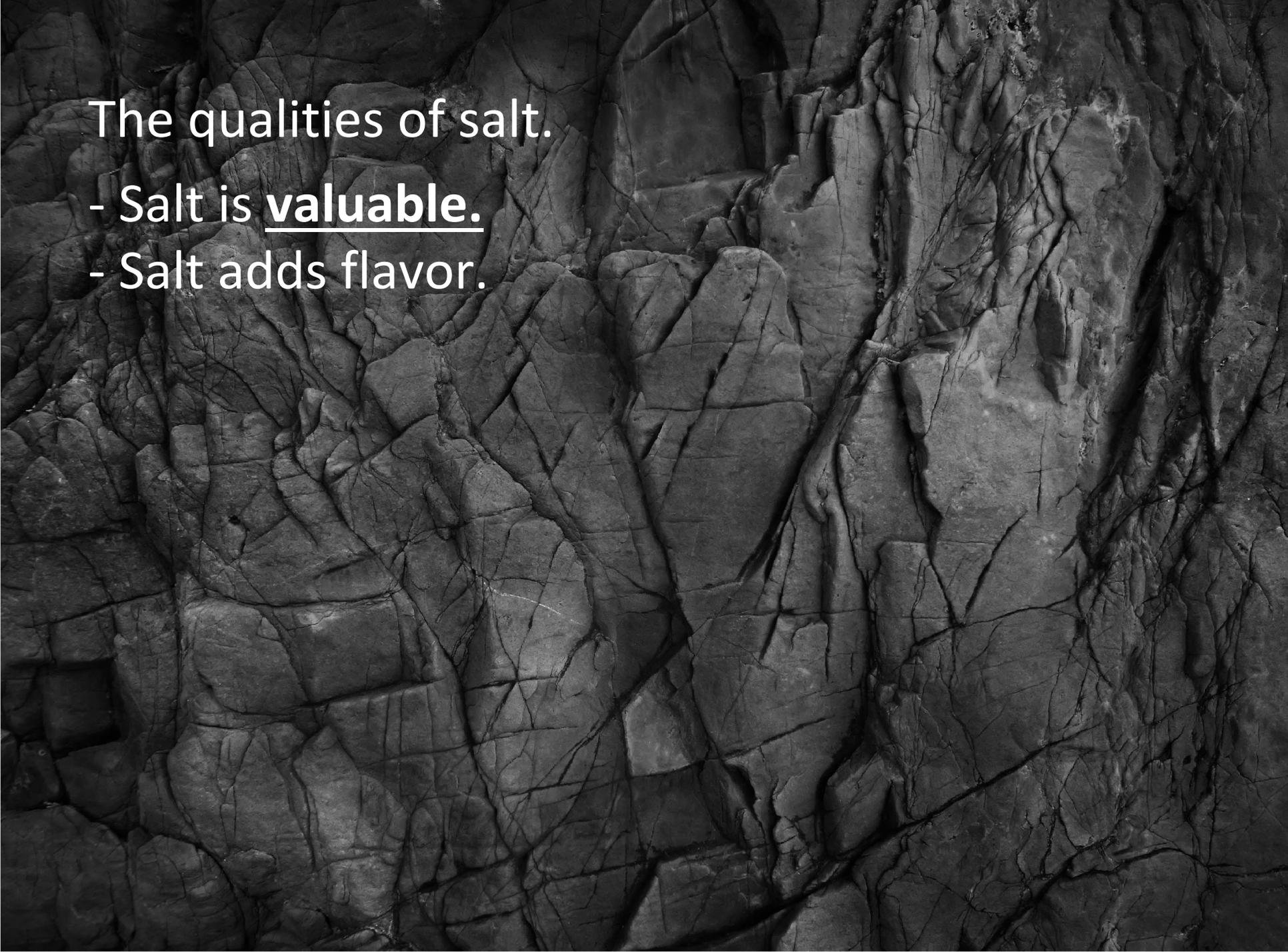
<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth”.

Mark 9:50 NLT

<sup>50</sup> “Salt is good for seasoning. But if it loses its flavor, how do you make it salty again? You must have the qualities of salt among yourselves and live in peace with each other.”



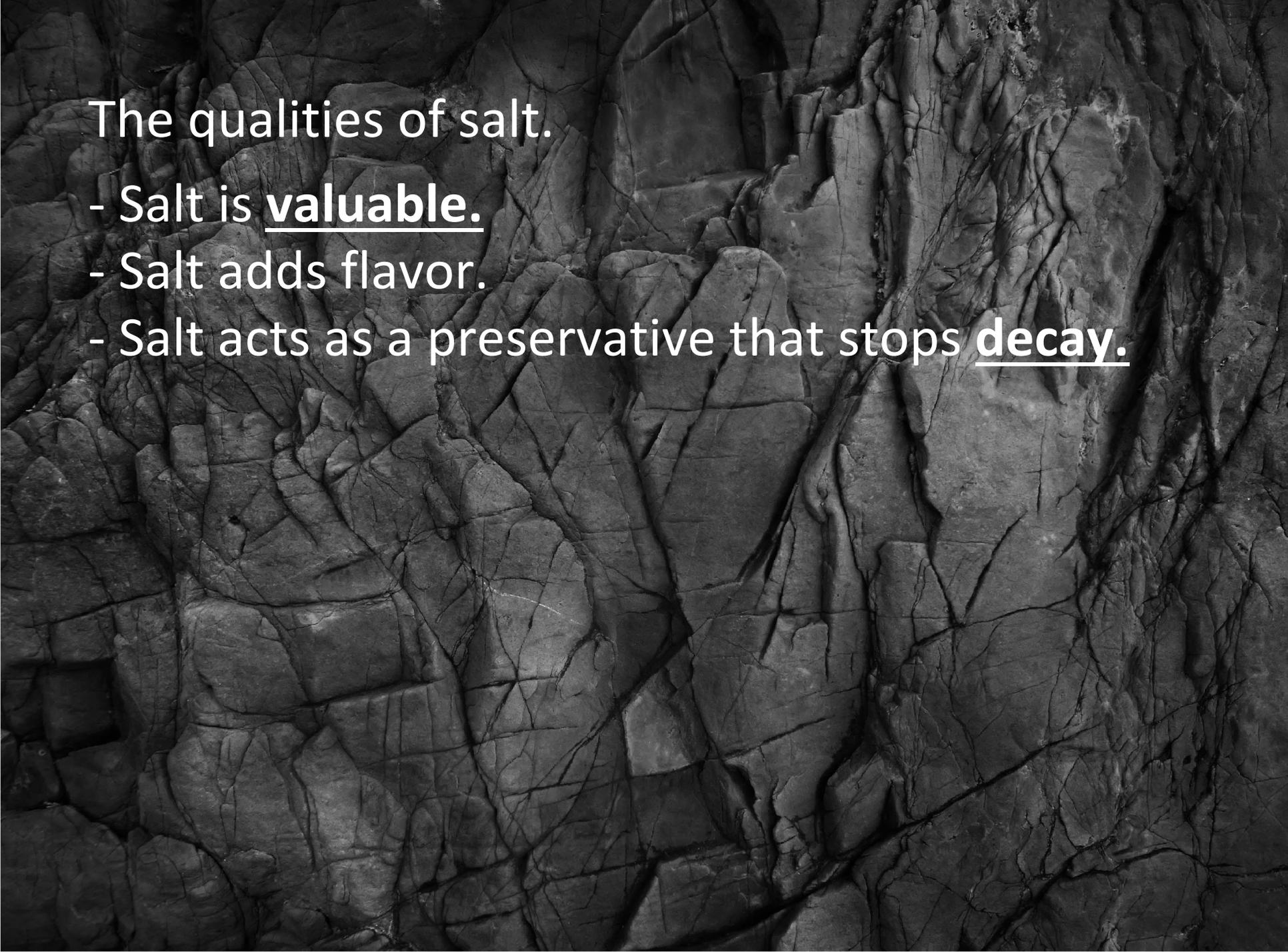
The qualities of salt  
- Salt is valuable.



The qualities of salt.

- Salt is valuable.

- Salt adds flavor.

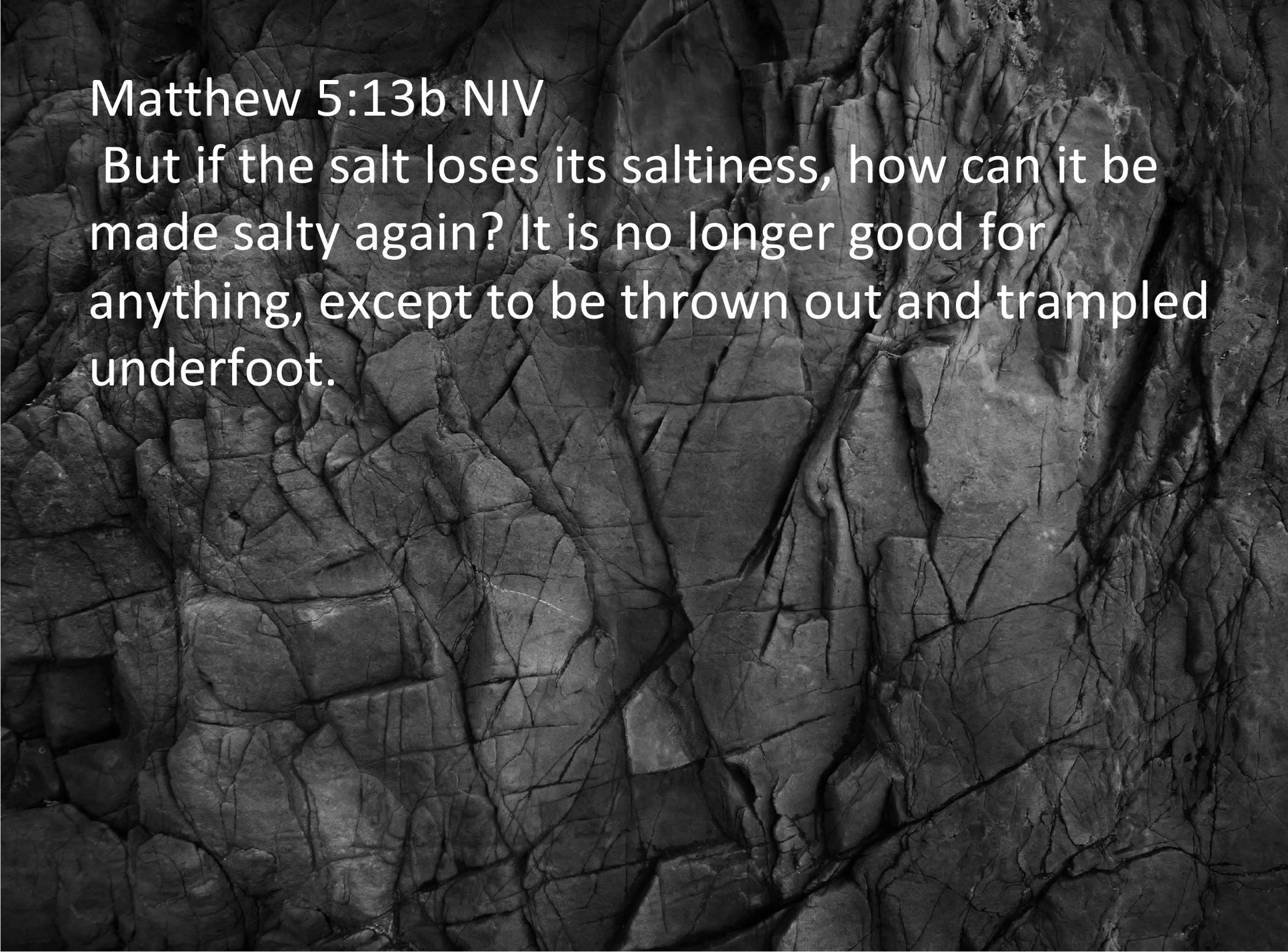


The qualities of salt.

- Salt is valuable.

- Salt adds flavor.

- Salt acts as a preservative that stops decay.



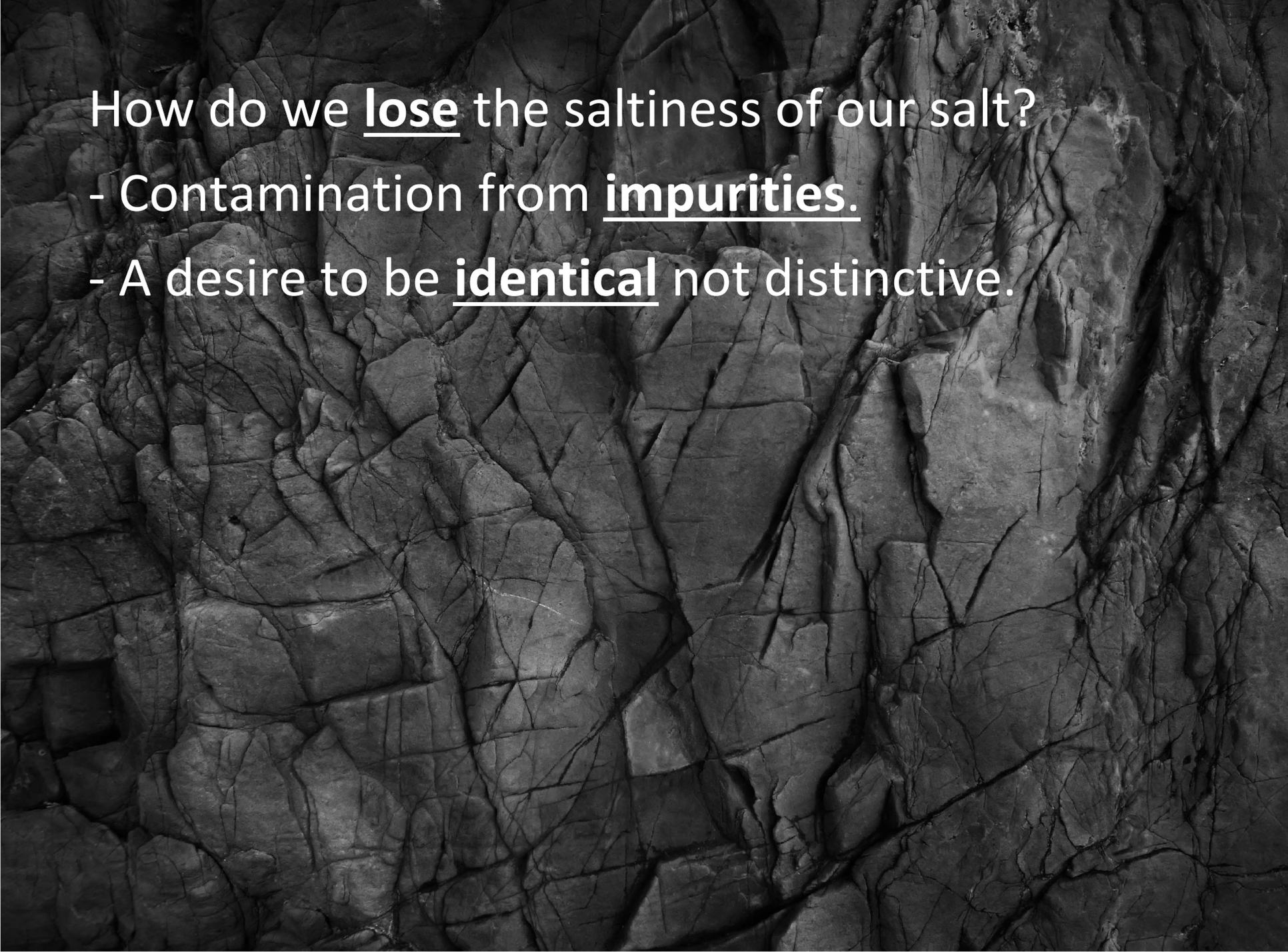
Matthew 5:13b NIV

But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.



How do we lose the saltiness of our salt?

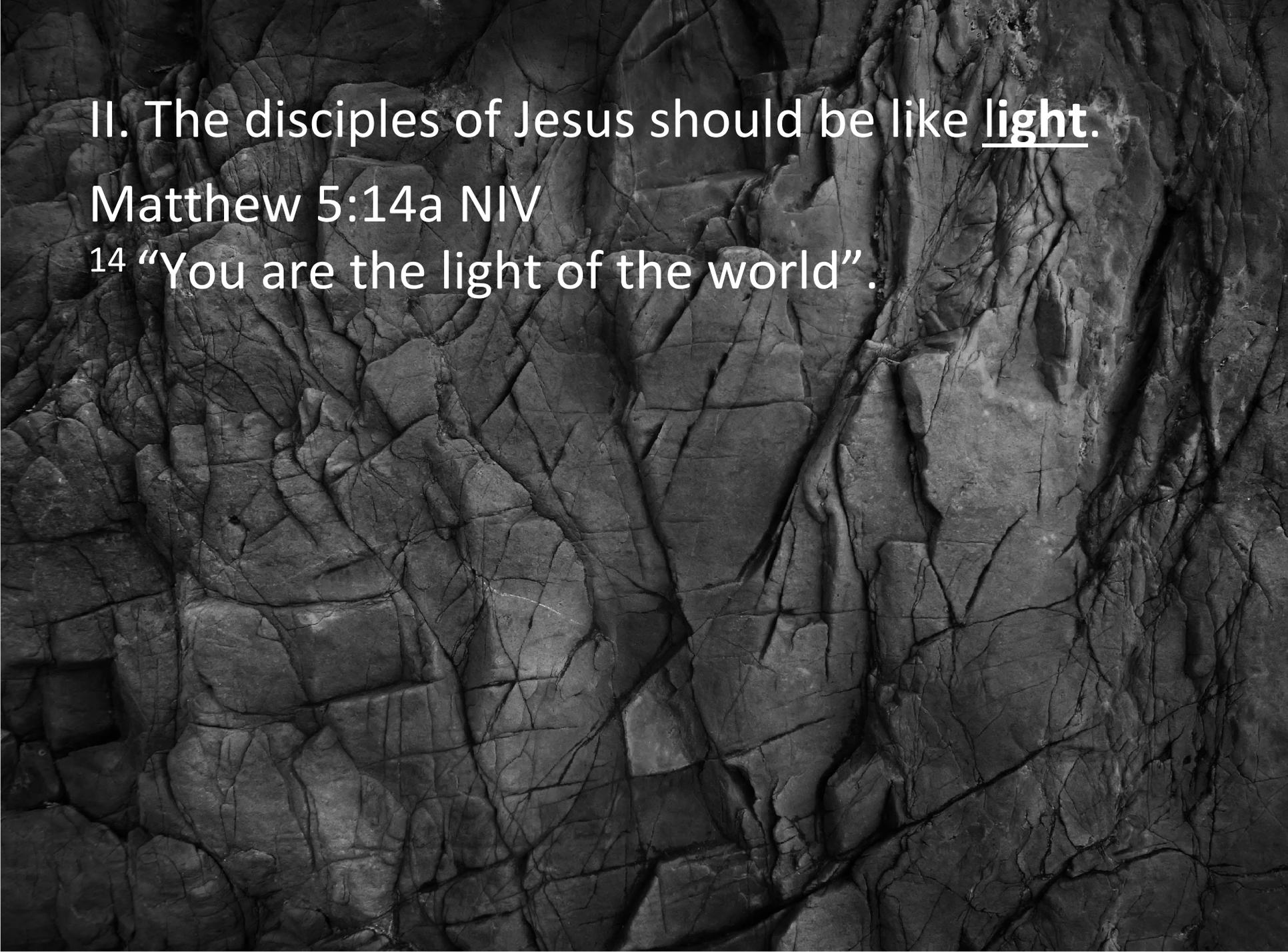
- Contamination from impurities.



How do we lose the saltiness of our salt?

- Contamination from impurities.

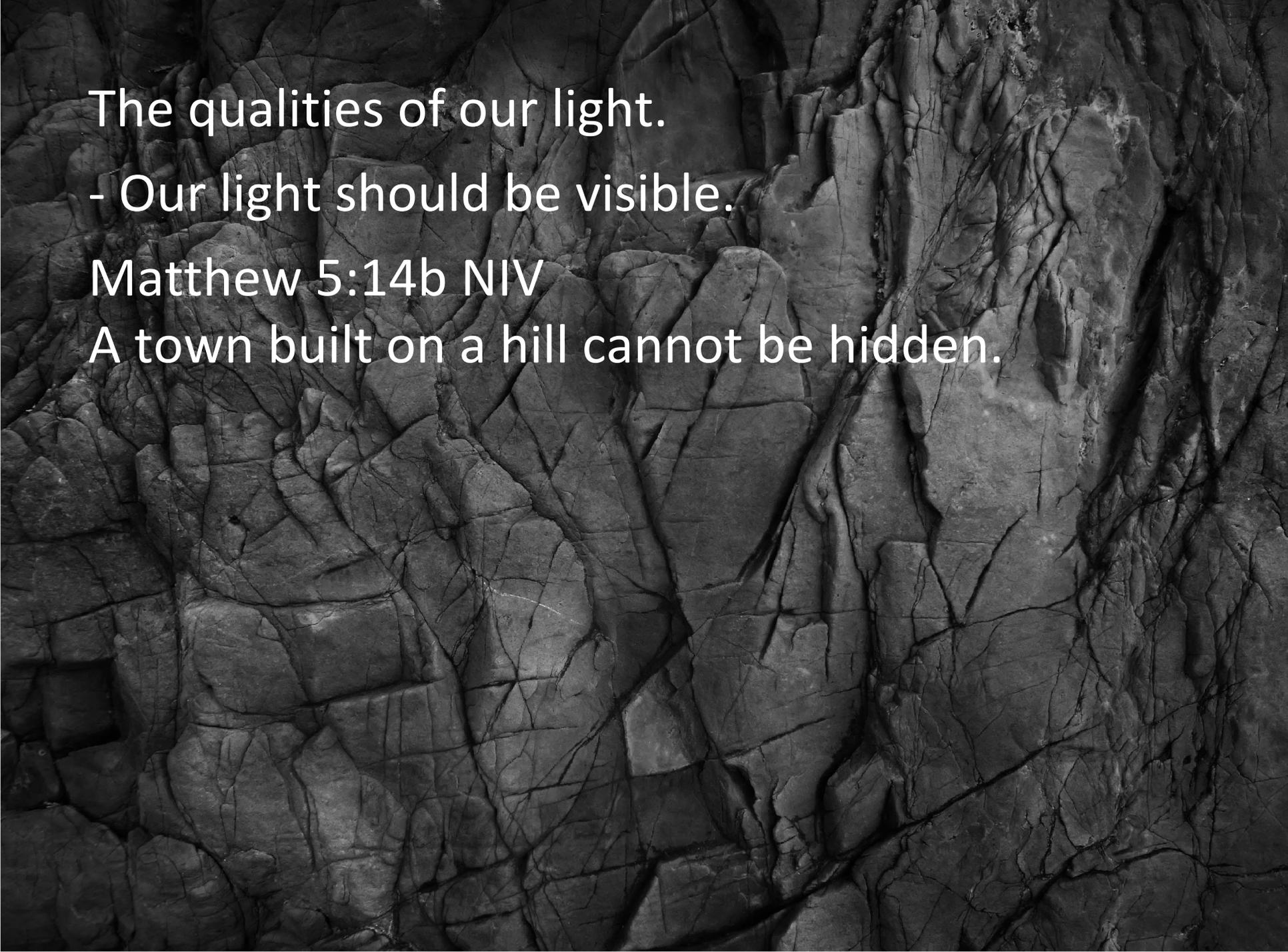
- A desire to be identical not distinctive.



II. The disciples of Jesus should be like light.

Matthew 5:14a NIV

<sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world”.



The qualities of our light.

- Our light should be visible.

Matthew 5:14b NIV

A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

- Our light should be intentional and effective.

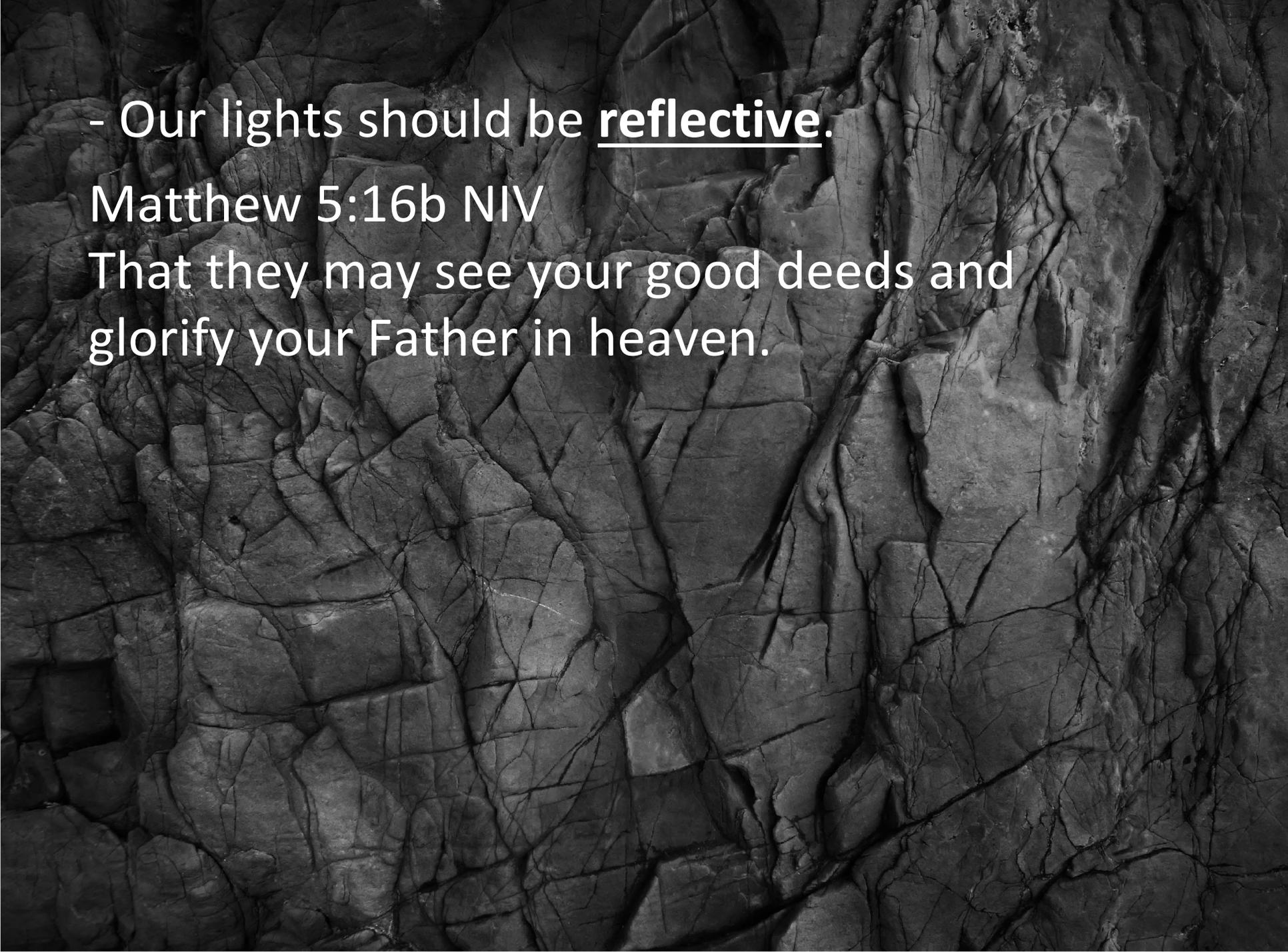
Matthew 5:15 NIV

<sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

- Our light should be used to illuminate and expose.

Matthew 5:16a NIV

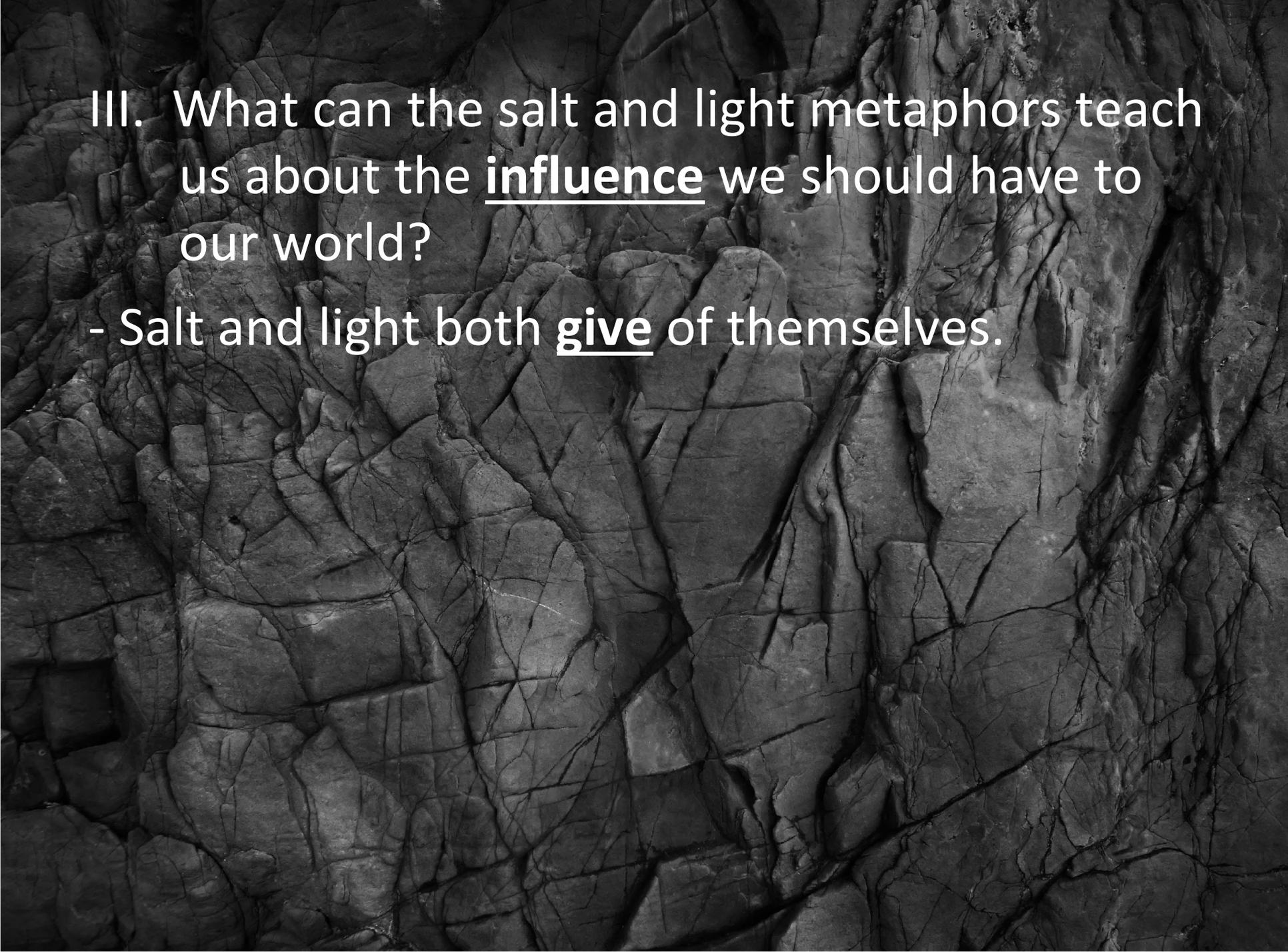
<sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others.



- Our lights should be reflective.

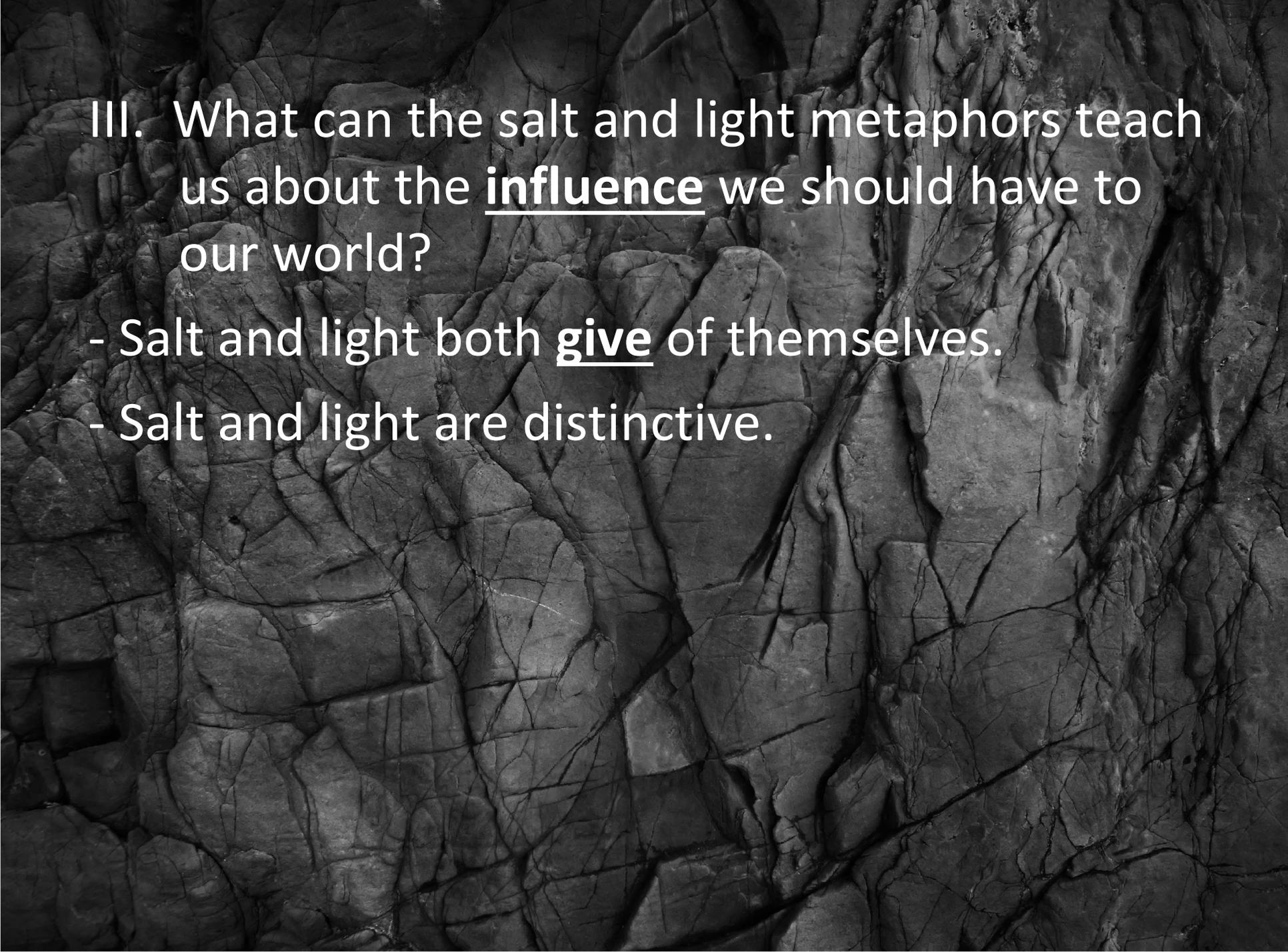
Matthew 5:16b NIV

That they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.



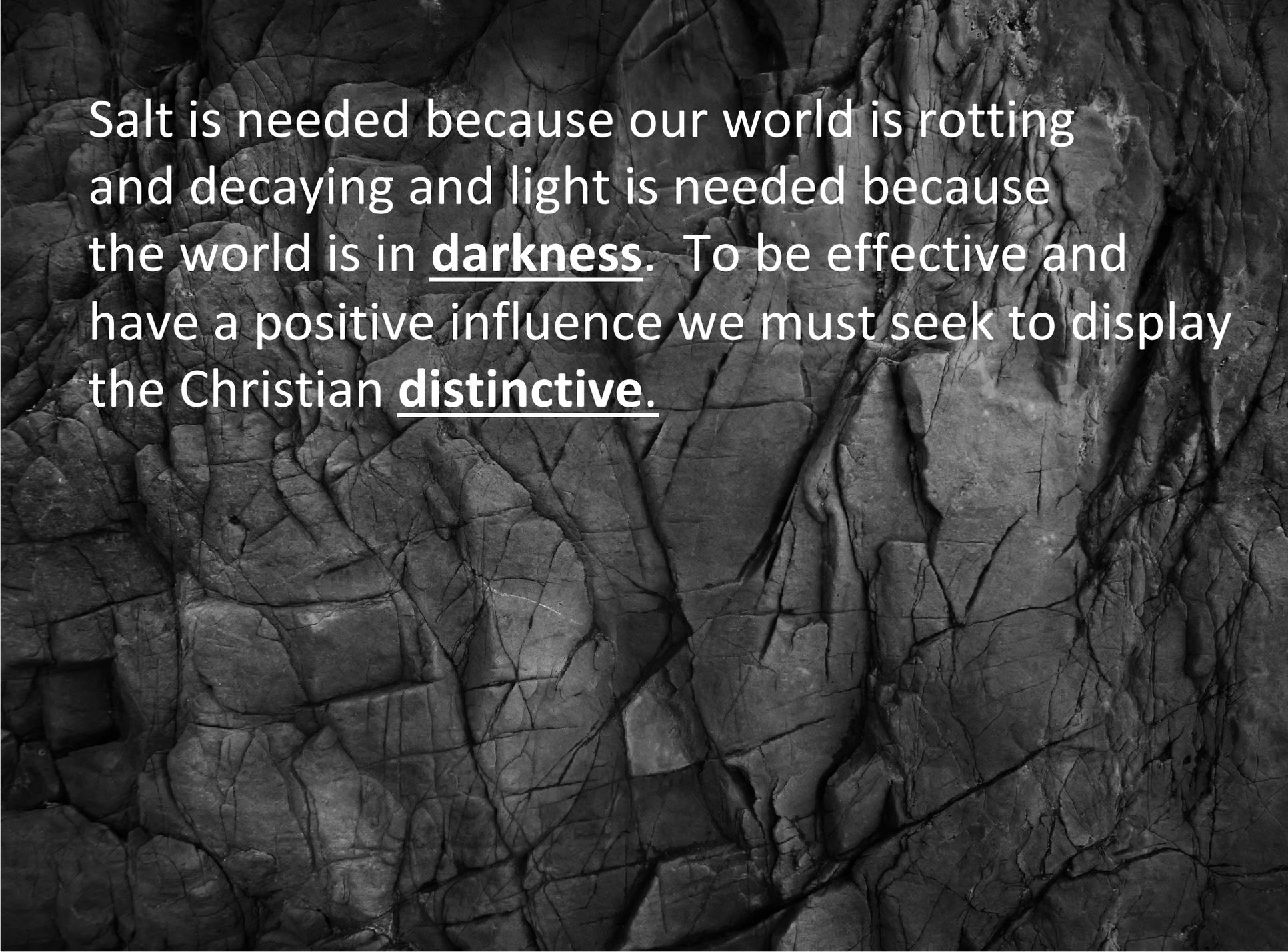
III. What can the salt and light metaphors teach us about the influence we should have to our world?

- Salt and light both give of themselves.



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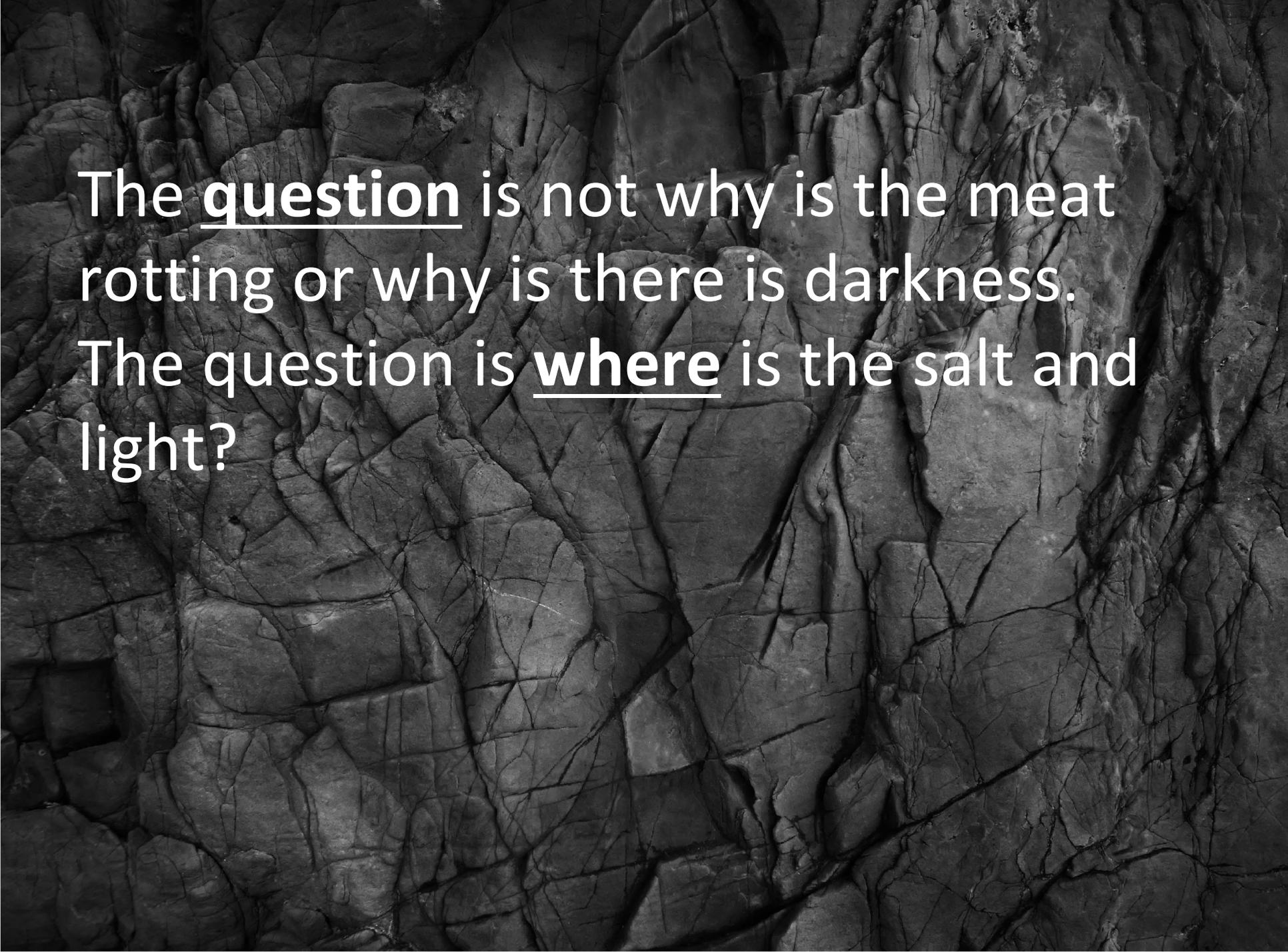
- Salt and light both give of themselves.
- Salt and light are distinctive.



Salt is needed because our world is rotting and decaying and light is needed because the world is in darkness. To be effective and have a positive influence we must seek to display the Christian distinctive.

- Salt and light should effect what they come in contact with.





The question is not why is the meat rotting or why is there is darkness.  
The question is where is the salt and light?

