



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

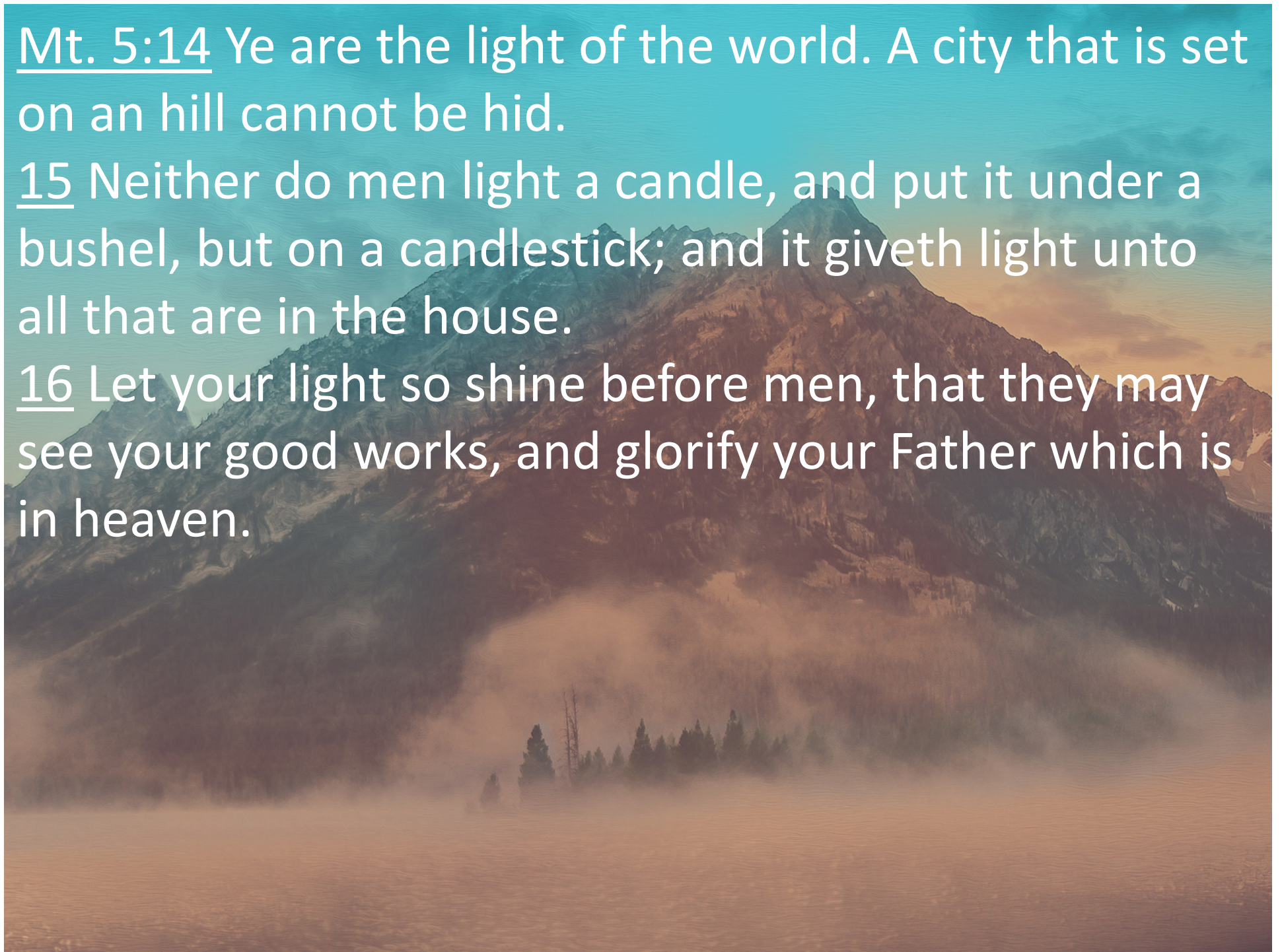
Mt. 5:14-16

*“The Light of the World”*

Mt. 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.



## Review

Several weeks ago, we began the exegesis of this great sermon preached by the Lord Jesus Christ.

### I. THE DISCIPLE AND HIS BLESSINGS, 5:1-16

A. The Setting, 5:1-2

B. The Sayings, 5:3-12

1. What We Are, 5:3-5

2. Where We Aim, 5:6

3. Ways We Act, 5:7-9

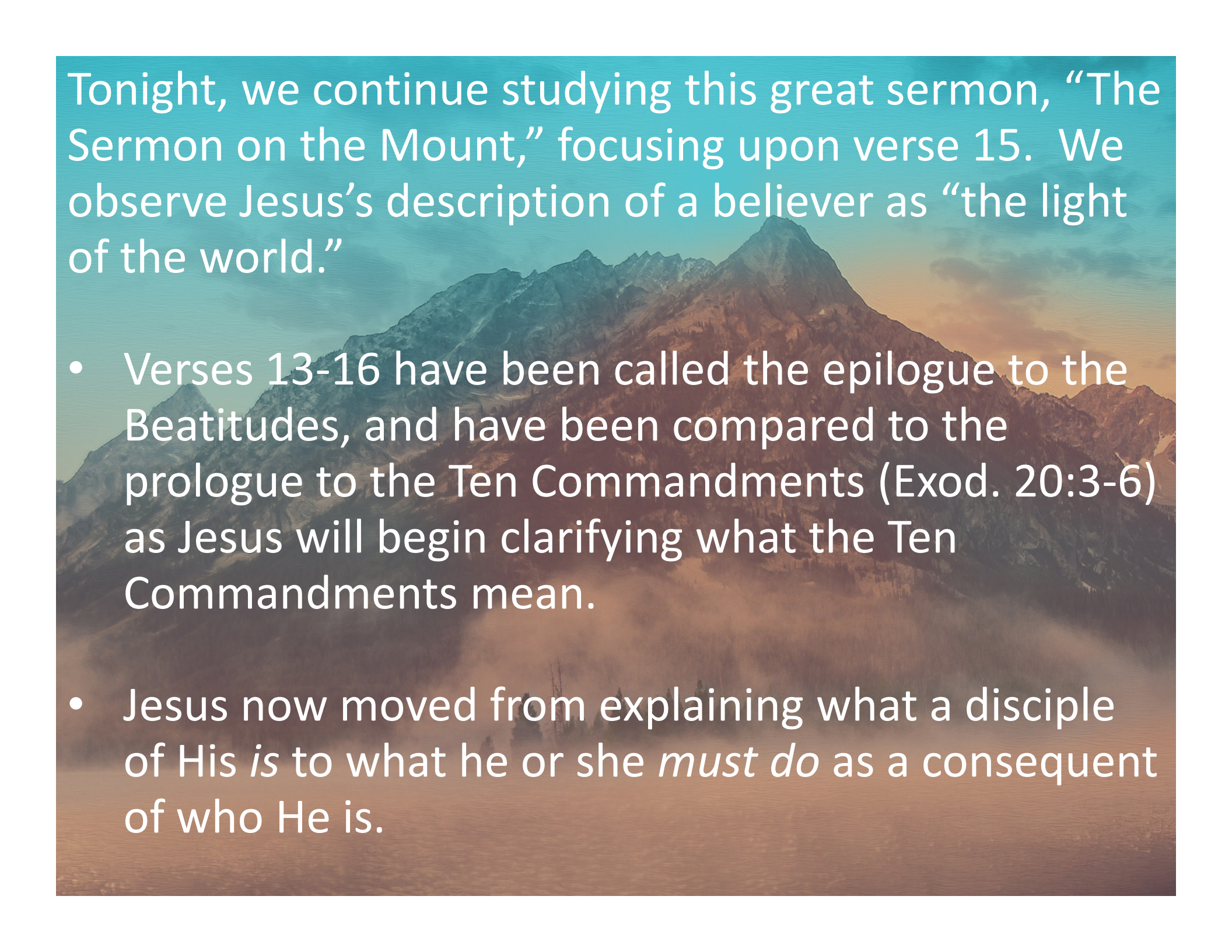
4. What We Accept, 5:10-12

C. The Sequel, 5:13-16

1. Resisting Decay, 5:13

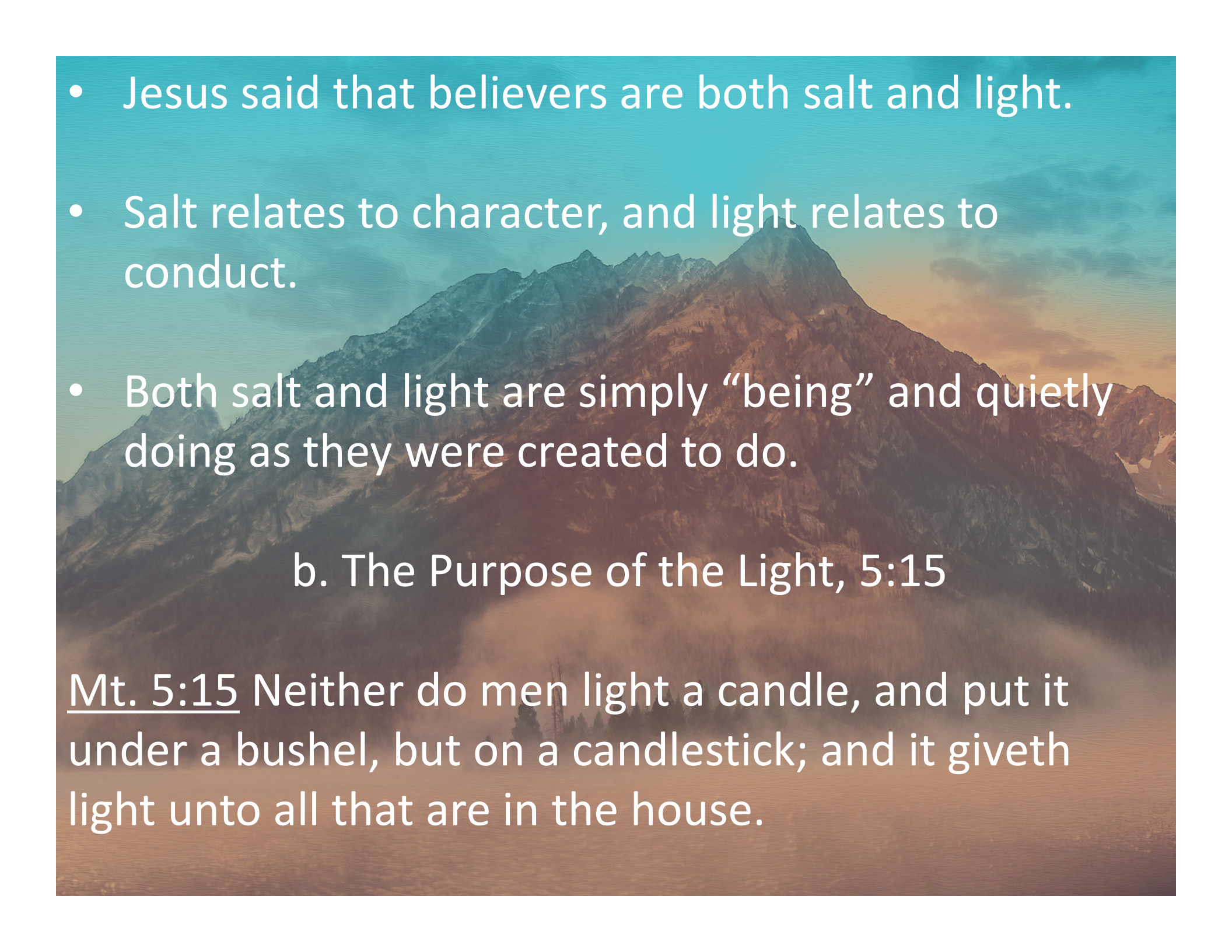
2. Removing Darkness, 5:14-16

a. The Position of the Light, 5:14



Tonight, we continue studying this great sermon, “The Sermon on the Mount,” focusing upon verse 15. We observe Jesus’s description of a believer as “the light of the world.”

- Verses 13-16 have been called the epilogue to the Beatitudes, and have been compared to the prologue to the Ten Commandments (Exod. 20:3-6) as Jesus will begin clarifying what the Ten Commandments mean.
- Jesus now moved from explaining what a disciple of His *is* to what he or she *must do* as a consequent of who He is.

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- Jesus said that believers are both salt and light.
  - Salt relates to character, and light relates to conduct.
  - Both salt and light are simply “being” and quietly doing as they were created to do.

### b. The Purpose of the Light, 5:15

Mt. 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

- The “place” mentioned for the action of the light to function was a “candlestick.”
- The “candlestick” for our day is a “church.”

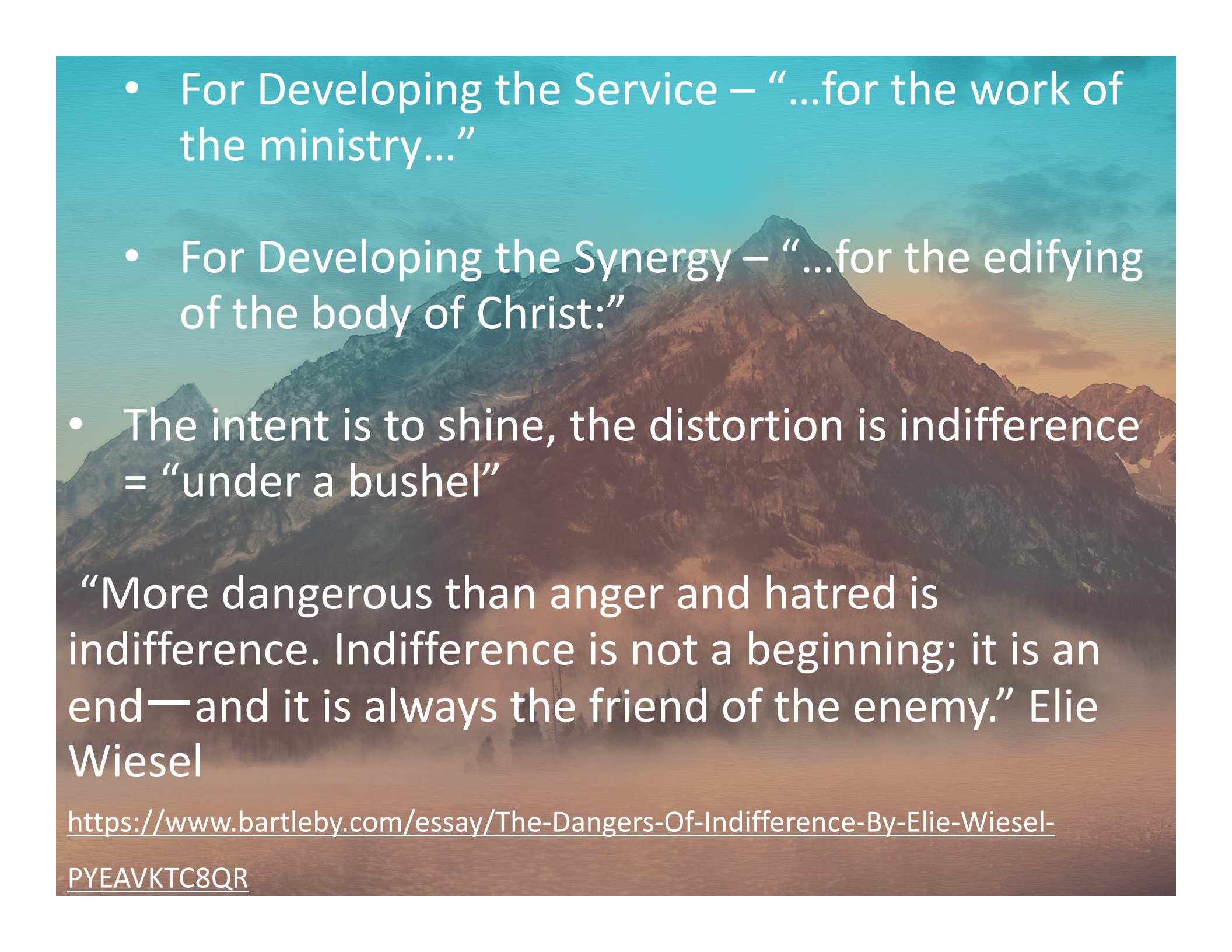
Rev. 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and **the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.**

- Believers are to function within the location designed by God – a local, visible assembly known as a church.

Eph. 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:**

- Believers' shining as light have three aspects in Eph. 4:12:
  - For Developing the Saints – “For the perfecting of the saints...”

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- For Developing the Service – “...for the work of the ministry...”
  - For Developing the Synergy – “...for the edifying of the body of Christ:”
  - The intent is to shine, the distortion is indifference = “under a bushel”

“More dangerous than anger and hatred is indifference. Indifference is not a beginning; it is an end—and it is always the friend of the enemy.” Elie Wiesel

[https://www.bartleby.com/essay/The-Dangers-Of-Indifference-By-Elie-Wiesel-](https://www.bartleby.com/essay/The-Dangers-Of-Indifference-By-Elie-Wiesel-PYEAVKTC8QR)

[PYEAVKTC8QR](https://www.bartleby.com/essay/The-Dangers-Of-Indifference-By-Elie-Wiesel-PYEAVKTC8QR)



The image features a central text overlay on a background of a mountain range. The mountains are rugged and dark, with some snow patches. The sky is a mix of teal and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text is arranged in four paragraphs, each followed by a quote in bold red letters. The quote is attributed to Elie Wiesel at the bottom.

The opposite of love is not hate, **it's indifference.**

The opposite of beauty is not ugliness, **it's indifference.**

The opposite of sacred is not profane, **it's indifference.**

The opposite of life is not death, **it's indifference.**

—Elie Wiesel

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/476044623086772273/>

- The Holy Spirit moved Mark to give an additional perspective:

Mark 4:21 And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a **bushel**, or under a **bed**? and not to be set on a candlestick?

Hindrances to shining testimonies:

“Bushel” = world of labor

“Bed” = world of leisure

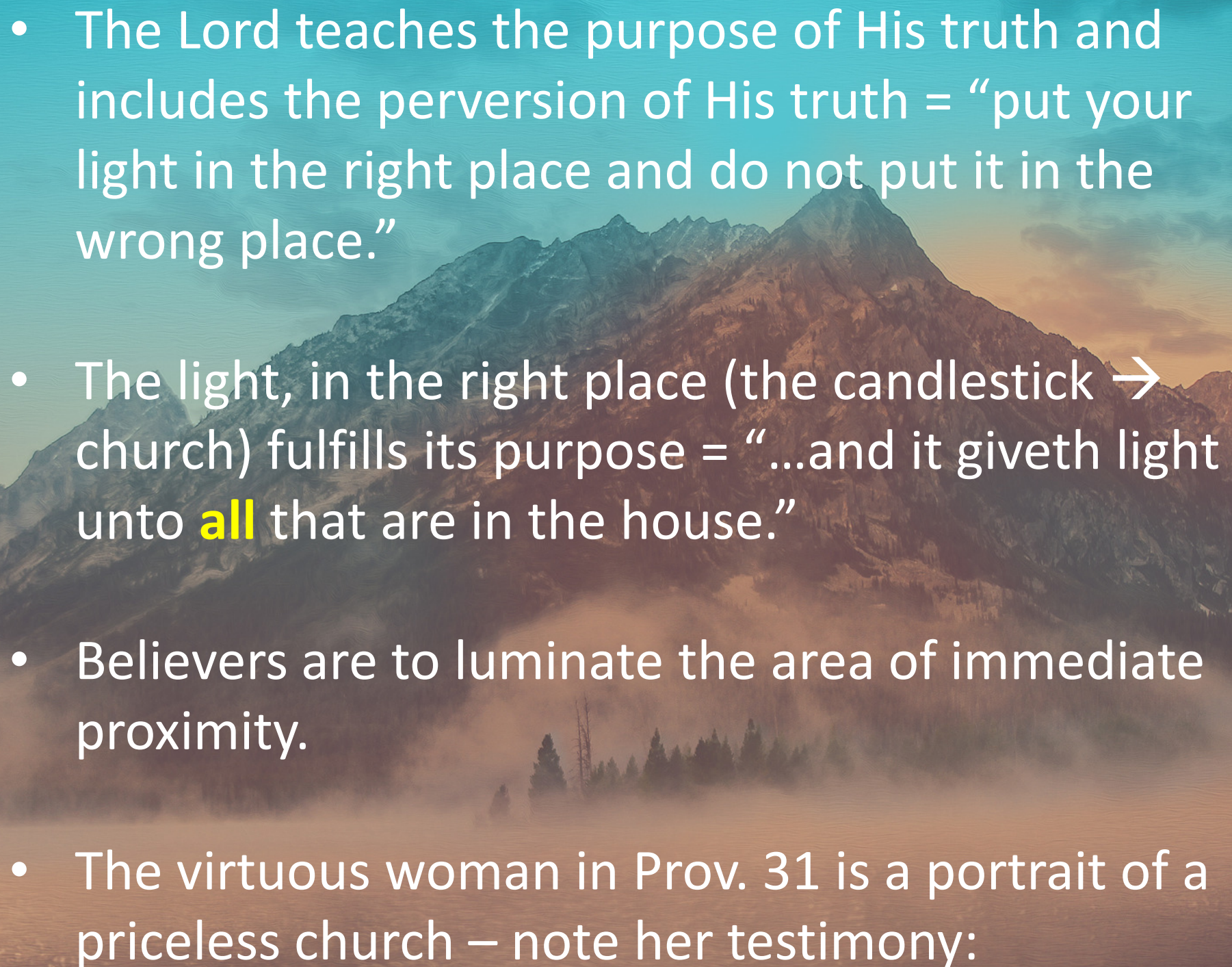
- The contrast is given by Jesus is to accentuate His *intention* versus the *indifference*.

Heb. 6:9 But, **beloved, we are persuaded better things of you, and things that accompany salvation,** though we thus speak.

10 For God *is* not unrighteous to forget **your work and labour of love**, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

11 And **we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence** to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

12 That ye **be not slothful**, but **followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.**

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- The Lord teaches the purpose of His truth and includes the perversion of His truth = “put your light in the right place and do not put it in the wrong place.”
  - The light, in the right place (the candlestick → church) fulfills its purpose = “...and it giveth light unto **all** that are in the house.”
  - Believers are to luminate the area of immediate proximity.
  - The virtuous woman in Prov. 31 is a portrait of a priceless church – note her testimony:

Prov. 31:18 She perceiveth that her merchandise *is good*: **her candle goeth not out by night.**

- The perpetual testimony includes the influence of the Word of God:

Psa. 119:105 **Thy word is a lamp** unto my feet, and **a light unto my path.**

Phil. 2:14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:  
15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, **the sons of God**, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, **among whom ye shine as lights in the world;**  
16 **Holding forth the word of life**; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

## Conclusion

Jn. 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.**

Eph. 5:8 For **ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:**