

SEE LIGHT, BE LIGHT 2

1 JOHN 2:1-11

1 JOHN

- One of only two New Testament Epistles (letters) in which the author does not identify themselves (the other is Hebrews)
- We cannot know for certain, but authorship has most commonly been attributed to John the Apostle
 - One of Jesus' closest disciples
 - Probably the author of the four other New Testament books (The Gospel of John, 2 John, 3 John, Revelation)
 - Evidence for this includes: literary style, testimony as an eyewitness, authoritative tone, indication of close ties to Christ
- Purposes for writing are identified in the text but include...
 - To expose false gnostic teaching (and associated lack of morality), to identify Christ and to give assurances of faith

1 JOHN 2

“My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

3 We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. 4 Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. 5 But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: 6 Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

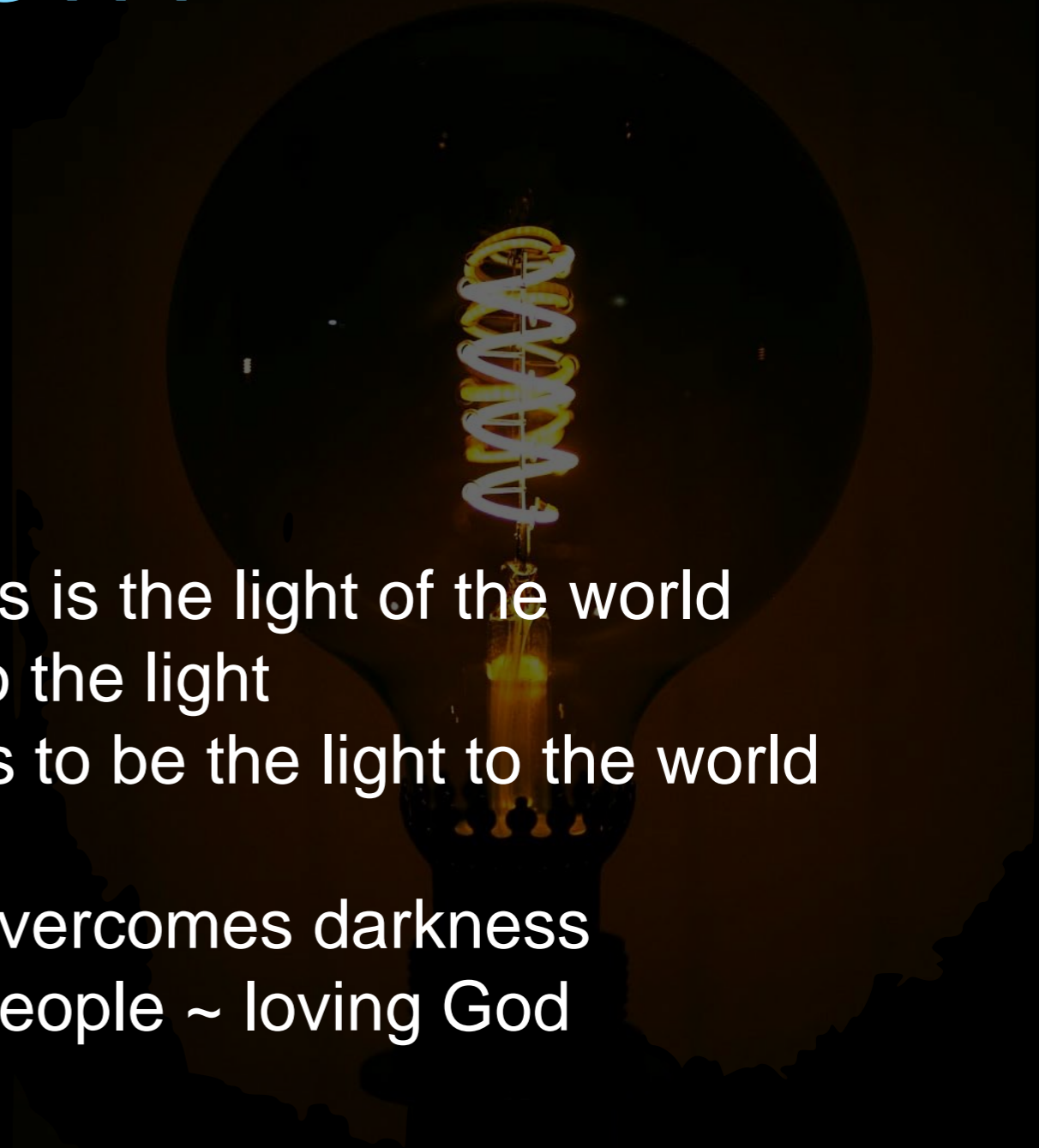
1 JOHN 2

7 Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. 8 Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.

9 Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. 10 Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. 11 But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.”

SEE LIGHT, BE LIGHT

- From 1 John 1 Last week...
 - We have light: God is light, Jesus is the light of the world
 - and can overcome barriers to the light
 - We are light: Jesus commissions to be the light to the world
 - Light = Love = Life
 - We must walk in the light: light overcomes darkness
 - Living out the truth = loving people ~ loving God



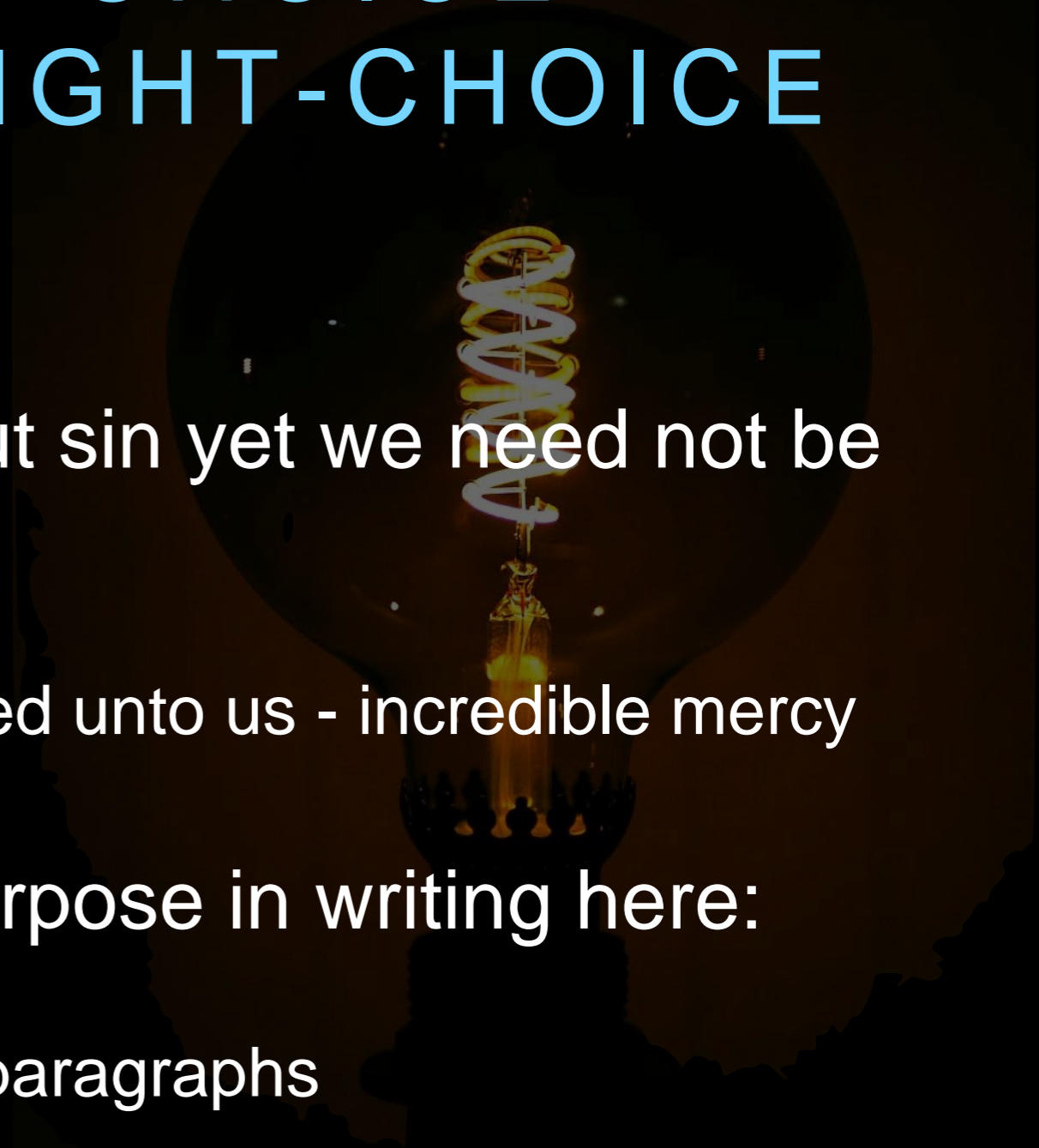
SIN = THE WRONG CHOICE THE SON = THE RIGHT-CHOICE

- 1 John 2 “My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. 2 He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.”
- These two verses could be a sermon and maybe even form the basis of a doctrine in themselves!!

SIN = THE WRONG CHOICE

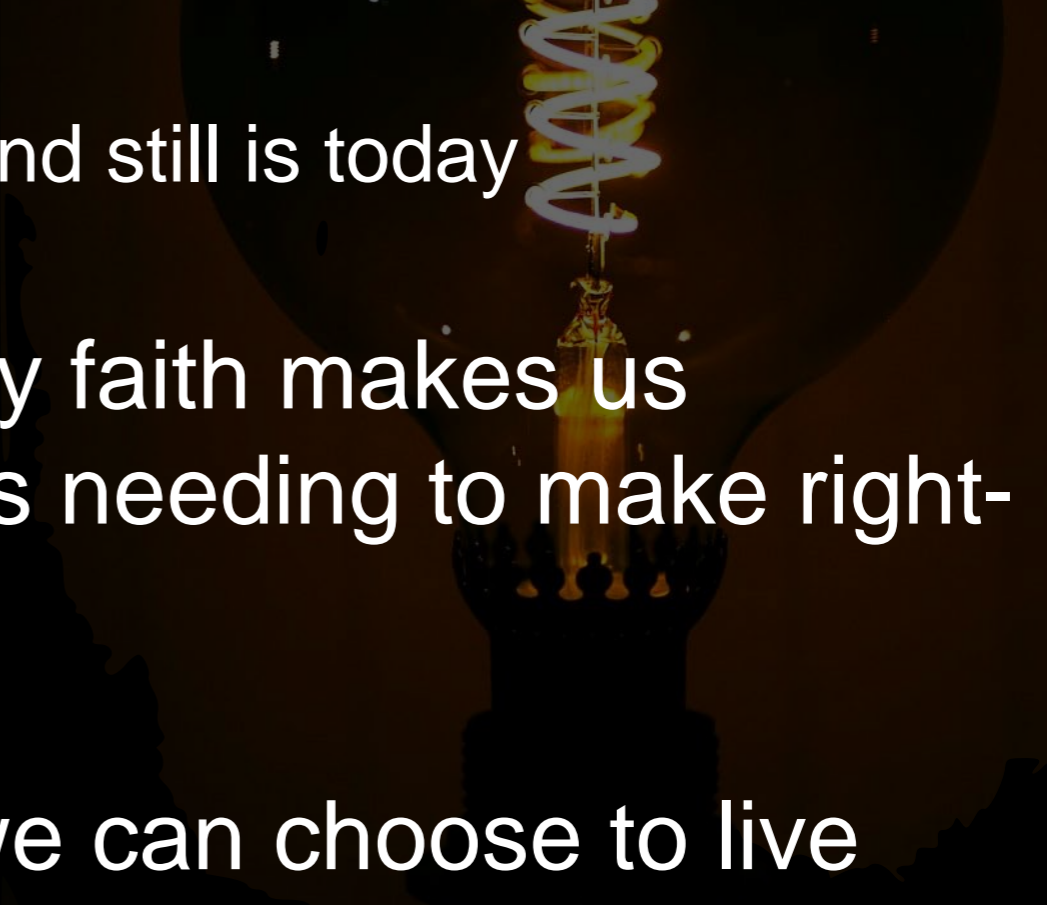
THE SON = THE RIGHT-CHOICE

- We cannot claim to be without sin yet we need not be held captive by them
 - Because we have an advocate
 - His righteousness has been shed unto us - incredible mercy
- John explains some of his purpose in writing here:
 - That we may choose well
 - In reference to the surrounding paragraphs



SIN = THE WRONG CHOICE

THE SON = THE RIGHT-CHOICE

- Sin is always a choice
 - It was in the beginning (Gen 2) and still is today
 - The forgiveness we receive by faith makes us righteous but does not stop us needing to make right-choices
 - Faith is to be 'lived-out' and we can choose to live inside or outside of His atoning sacrifice
- 

LIGHT OF THE WHOLE WORLD



- “...and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.”
- John was primarily writing to a Jewish audience - people who had known God and His word
- Now he alerts them to the limitless extent of the power of what Jesus achieved upon the cross
 - Are everyone’s sins already forgiven or is it only believers?

WALKING IN LIGHT

- 1 John 1:6-7 “If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.”
- We live out our love of God in fellowship
 - With Him AND with each other
- Walking in the light ≠ being perfect
 - It means living in Jesus; His truth and forgiveness

AM I LIT?!



AM I LIT?

- Lit has been used as slang for over a century, but it used to be slang for "drunk." Now, "lit" has taken on a new slang meaning describing something that is "exciting or excellent." (Merriam-Webster)
- That party was 'lit'!

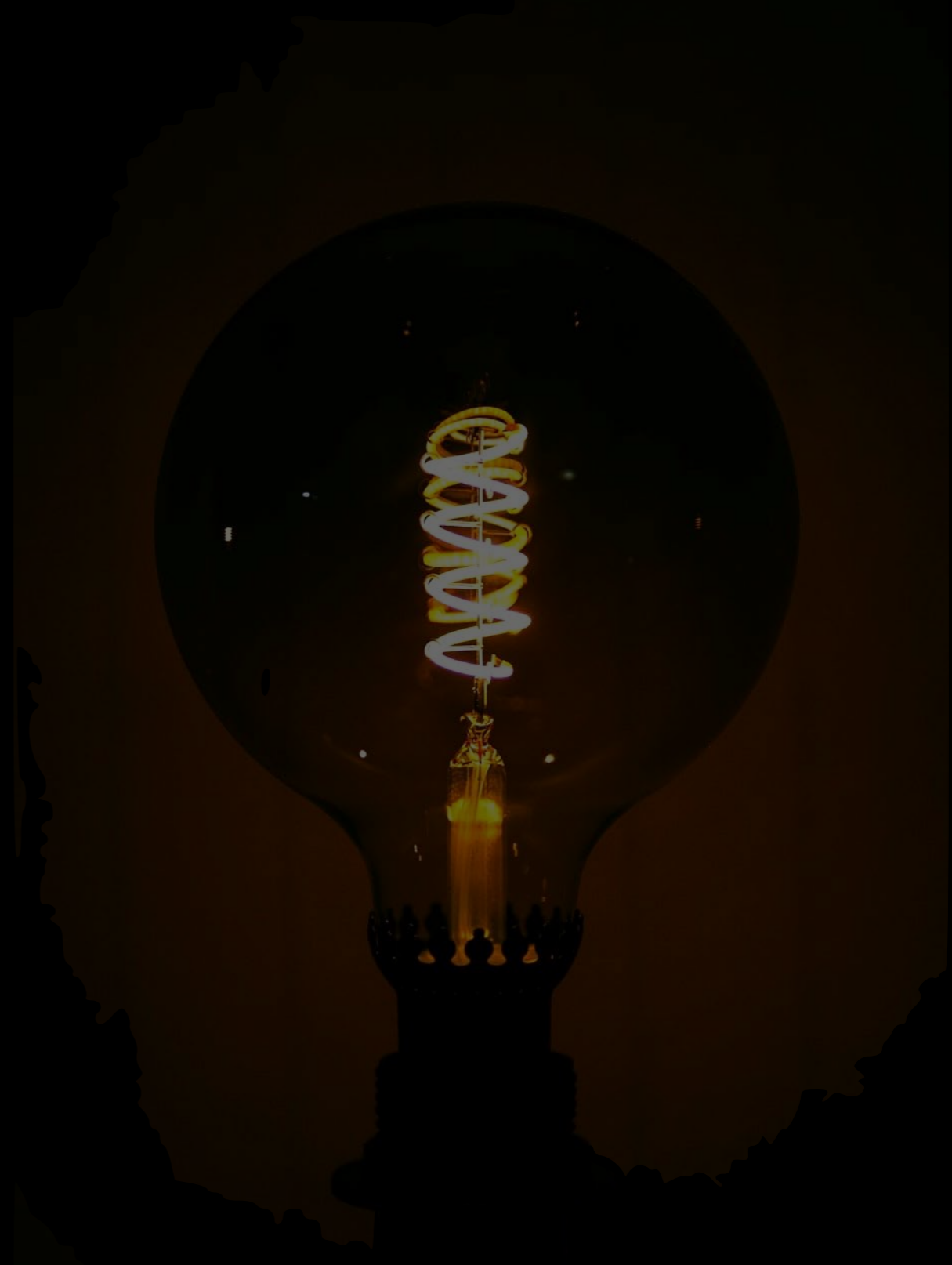
AM I LIT?

Millennial Language: The LIT-ness Test...

A glowing lightbulb with a filament, symbolizing an idea or insight. The lightbulb is the central focus of the background, with a warm, yellowish glow emanating from it. The filament is clearly visible, and the bulb is set against a dark, textured background that resembles a lightbulb socket or a similar mechanical part.

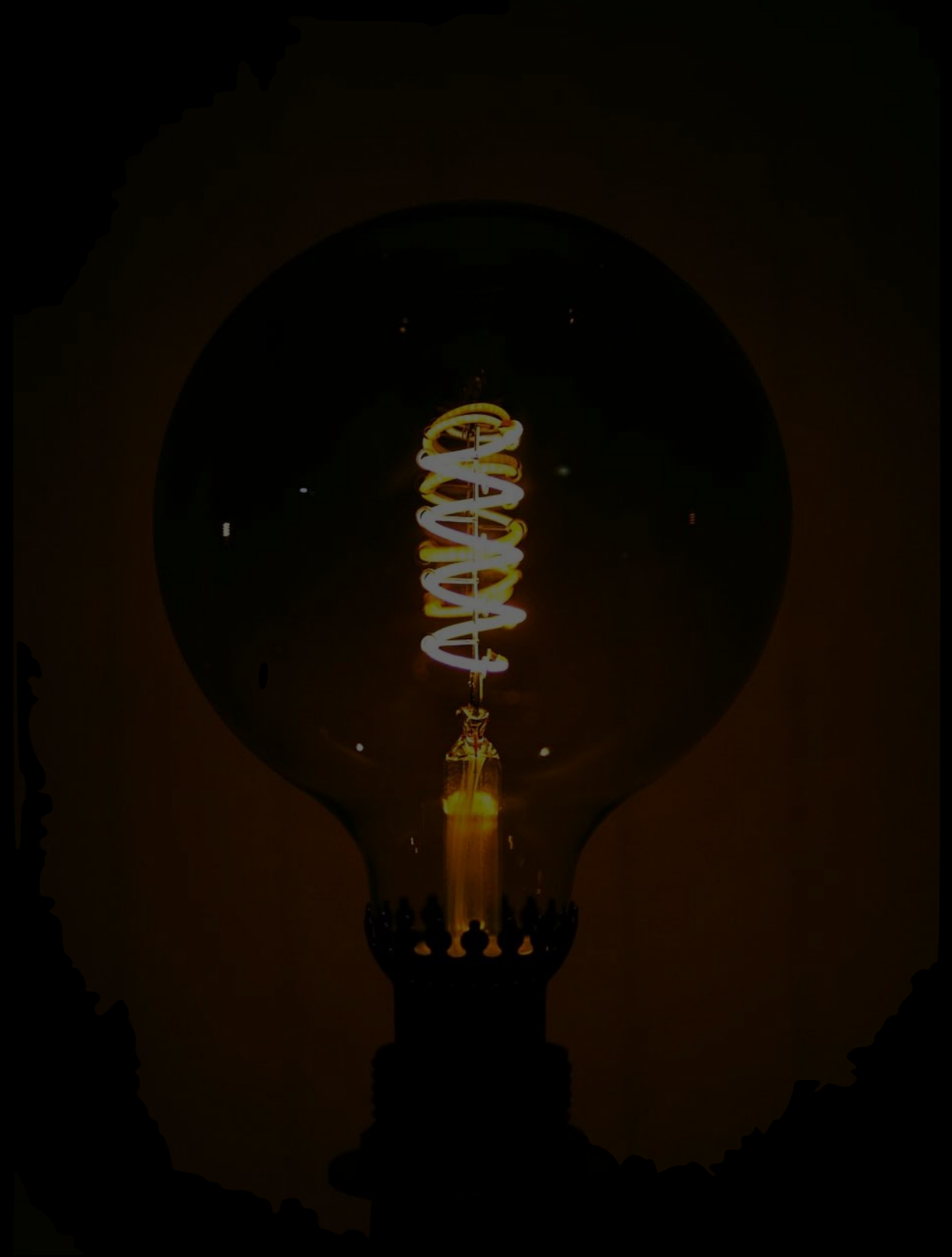
AM I LIT?!

Fit



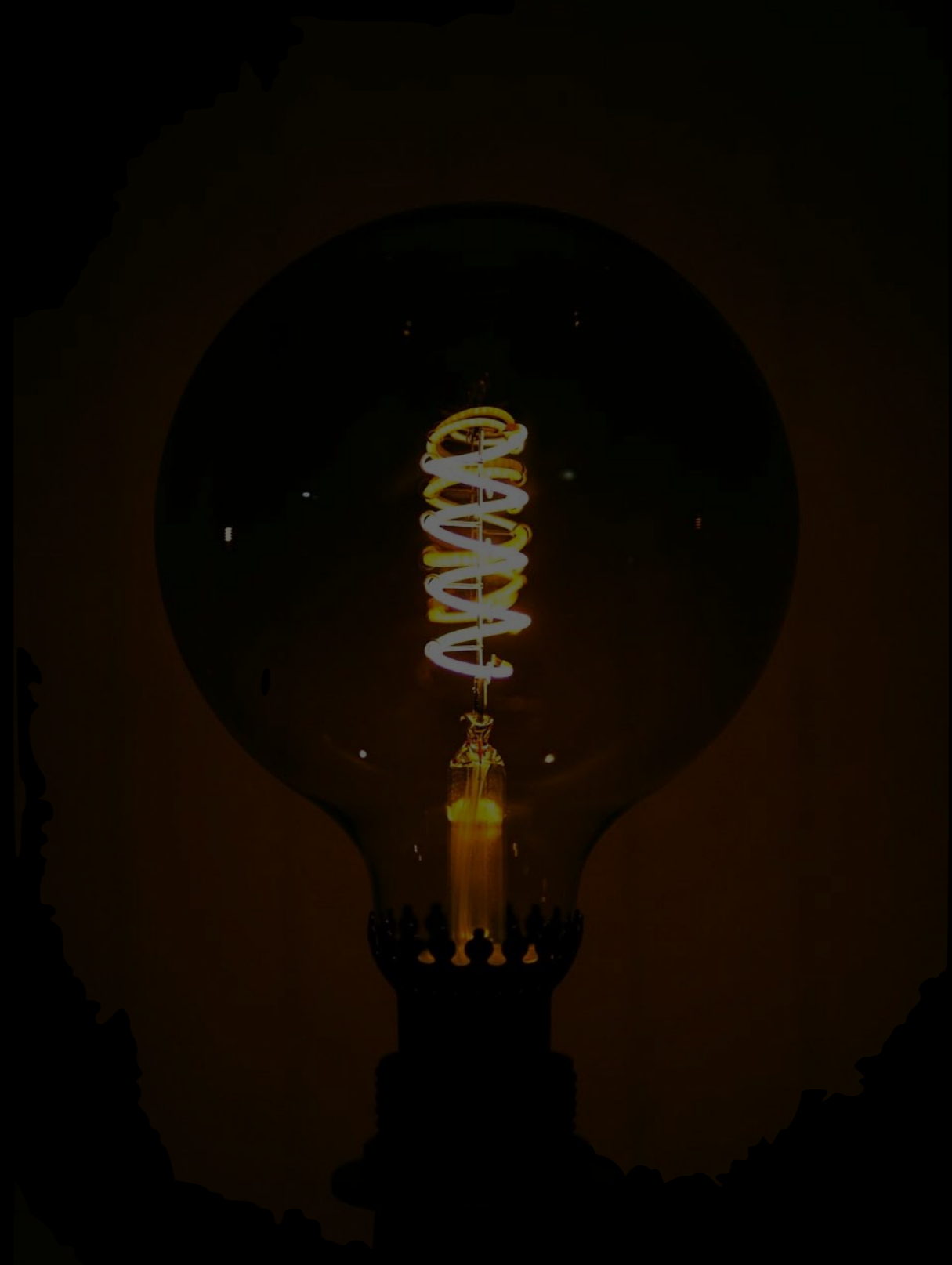
AM I LIT?!

Fit: attractive



AM I LIT?!

Flex



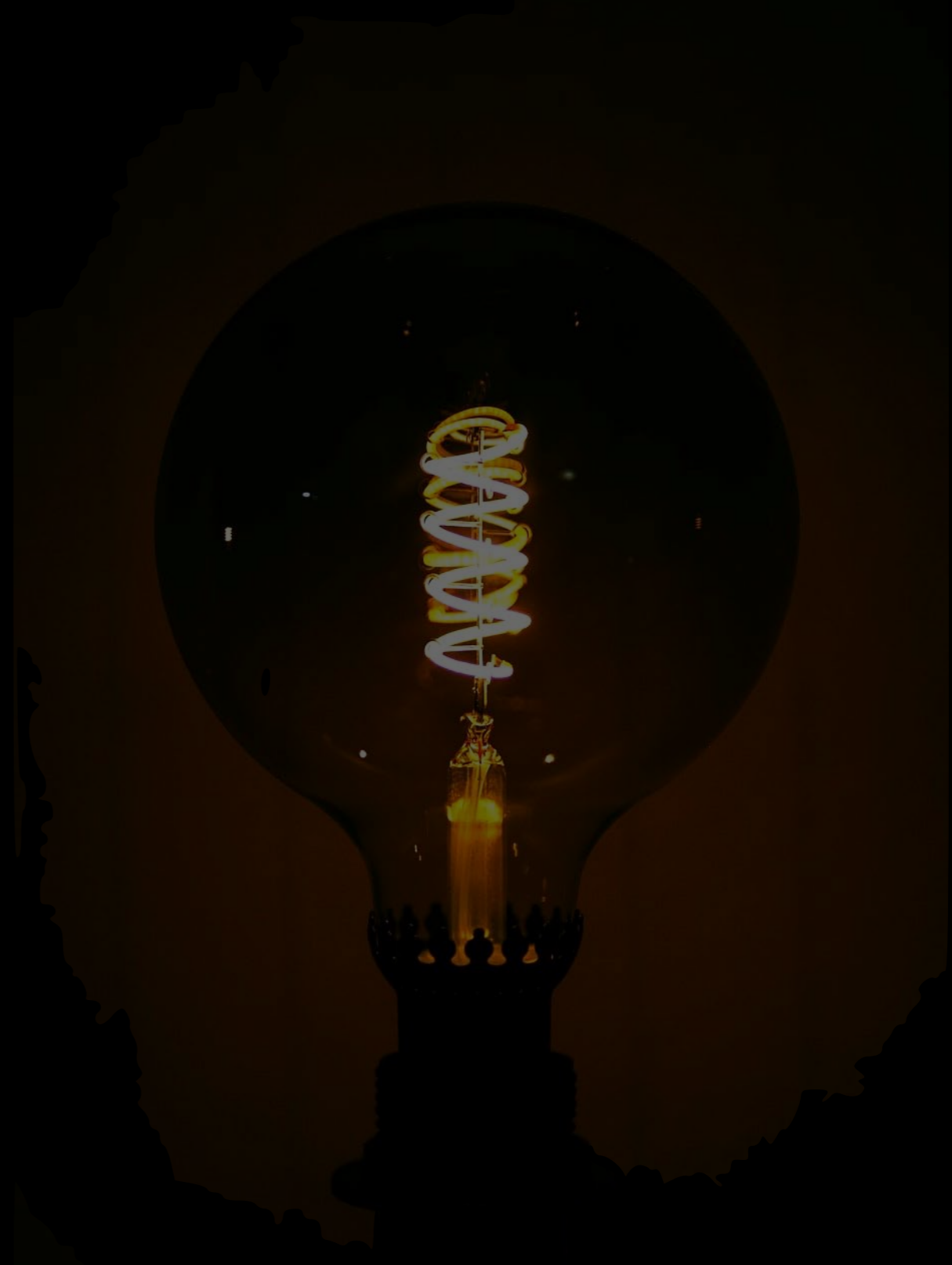
AM I LIT?!

Flex: to knowingly flaunt / show off

A glowing lightbulb with a spiral filament inside, set against a dark background with a faint silhouette of a lightbulb.

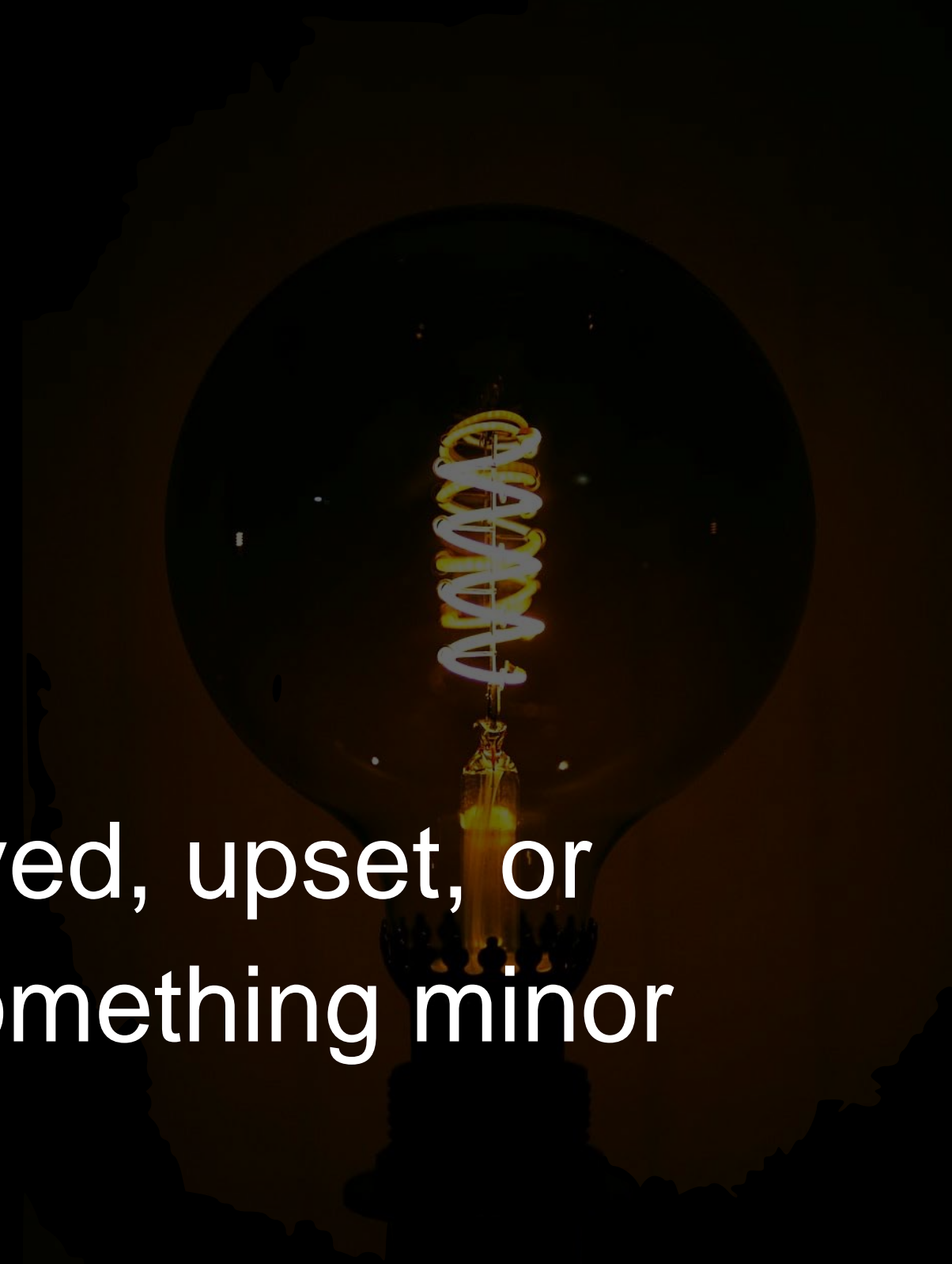
AM I LIT?!

Salty



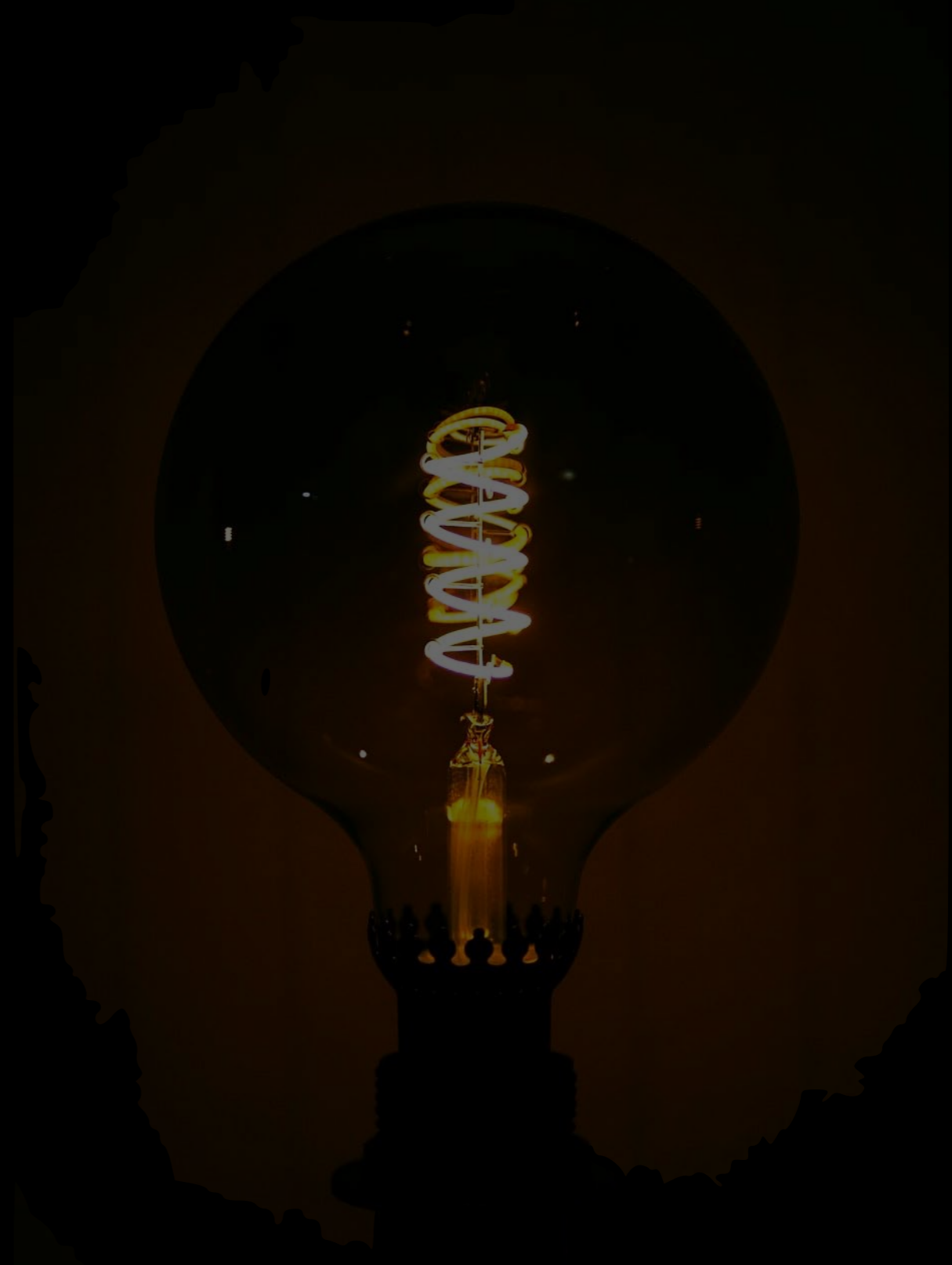
AM I LIT?!

Salty: to be annoyed, upset, or bitter, usually about something minor



AM I LIT?!

Hangry



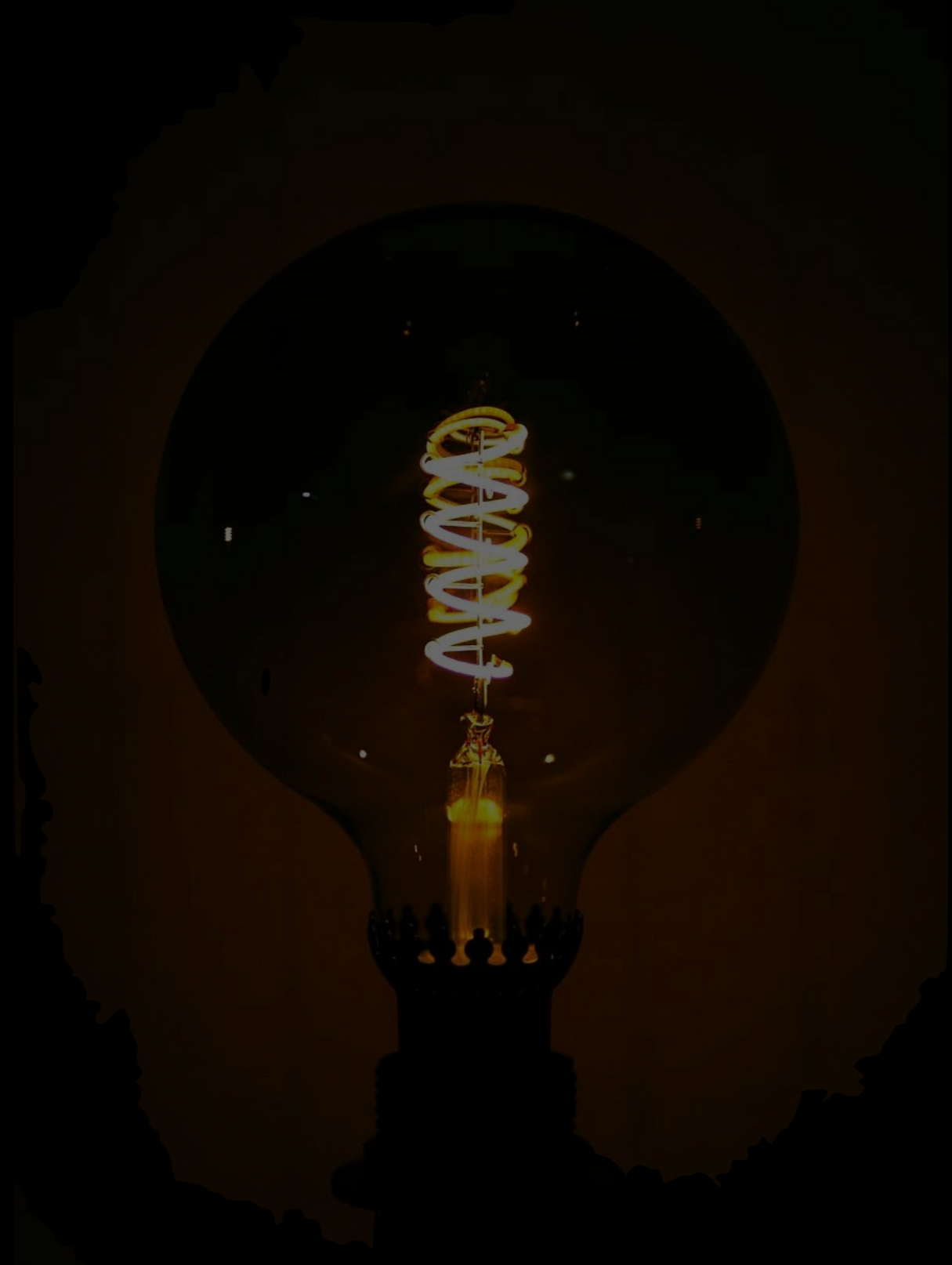
AM I LIT?!

Hangry: hunger induced anger

A glowing lightbulb is centered within a dark silhouette of a human head. The lightbulb's filament is lit, casting a warm, yellow glow. The background is black, making the lightbulb and the white text stand out prominently.

AM I LIT?!

Slay



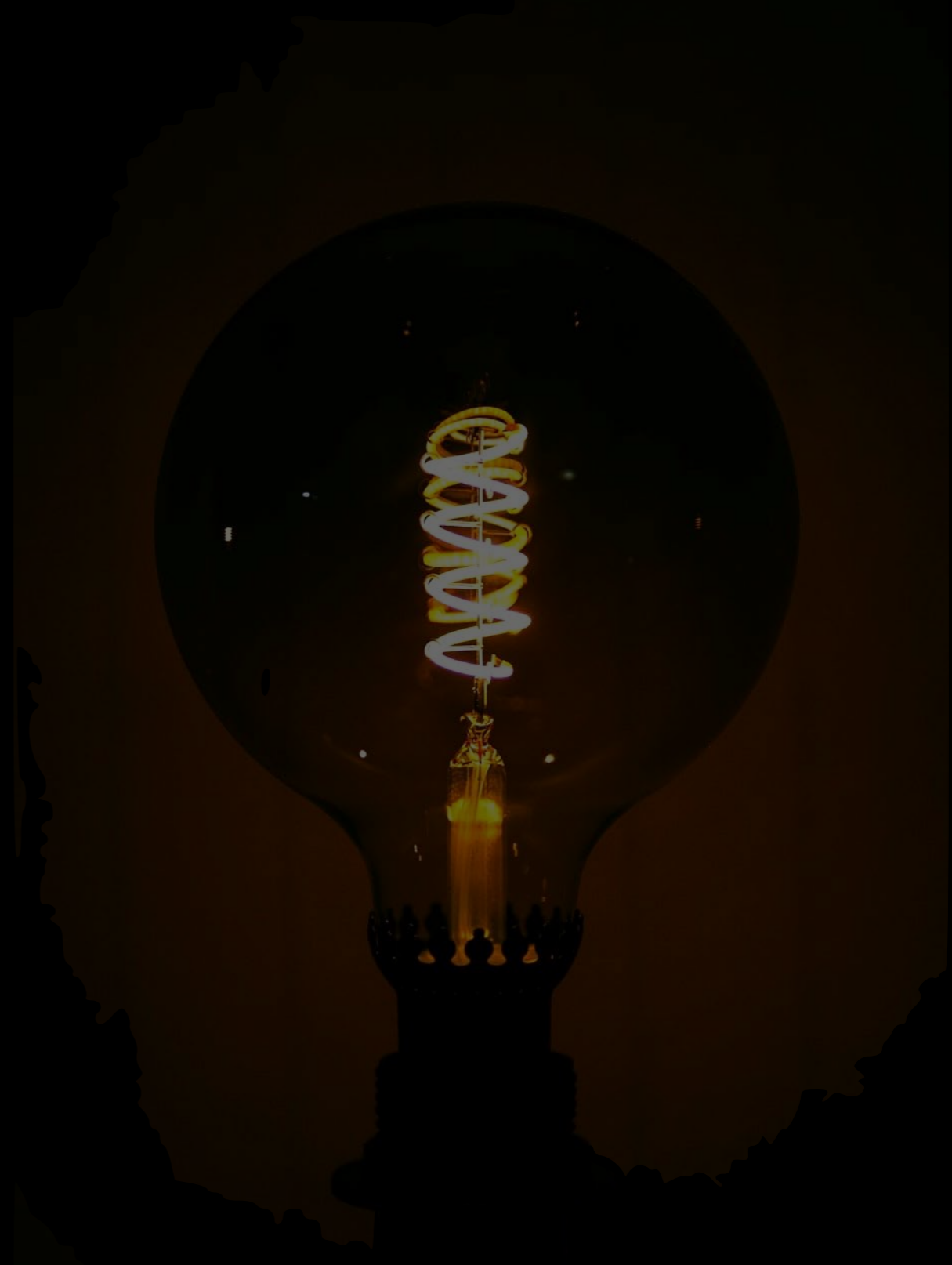
AM I LIT?!

Slay: to do really well at something

A glowing lightbulb with a filament inside, set against a dark background with a faint silhouette of a person's head.

AM I LIT?!

Bae



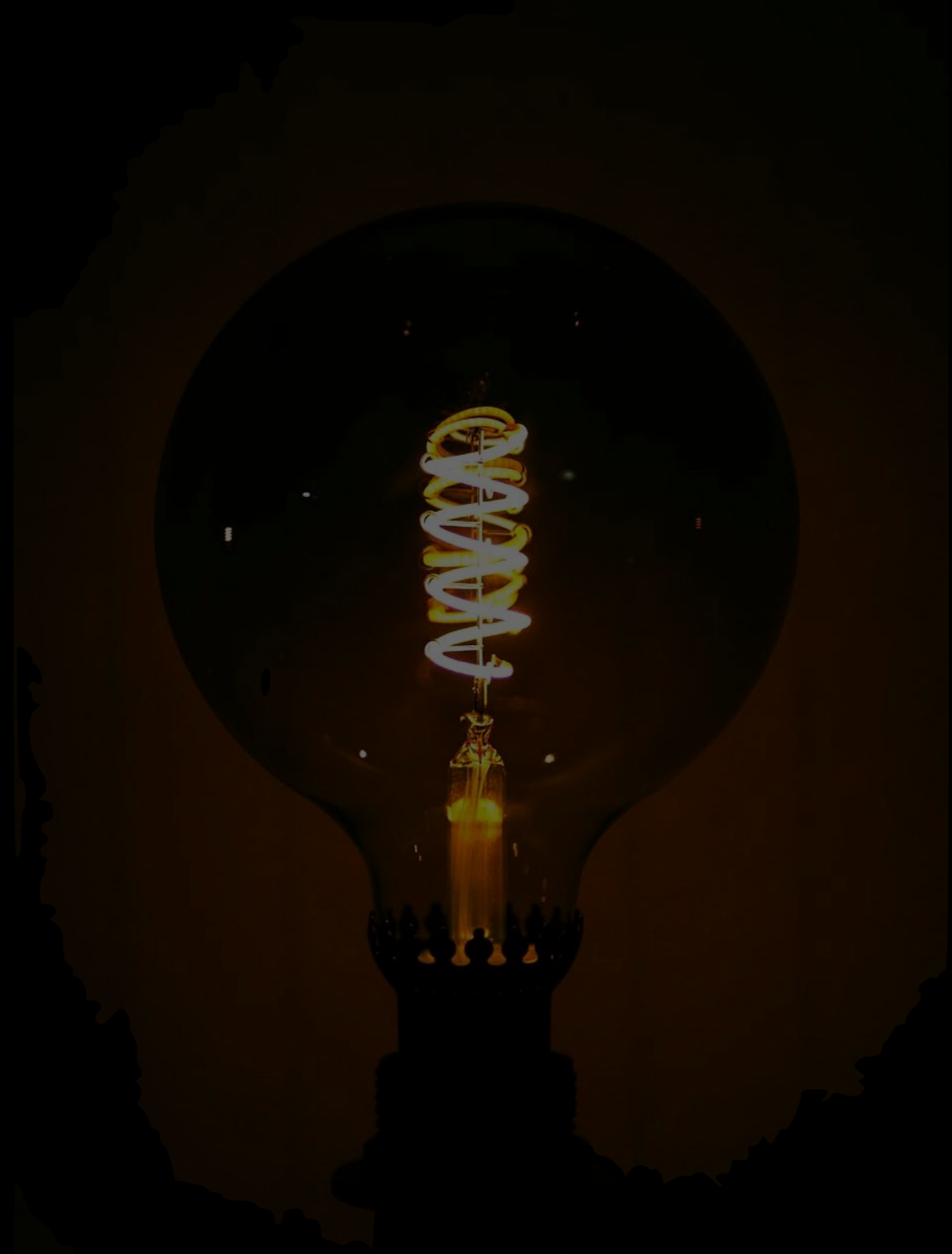
AM I LIT?!

Bae: before anyone else



AM I LIT?!

On Fleek



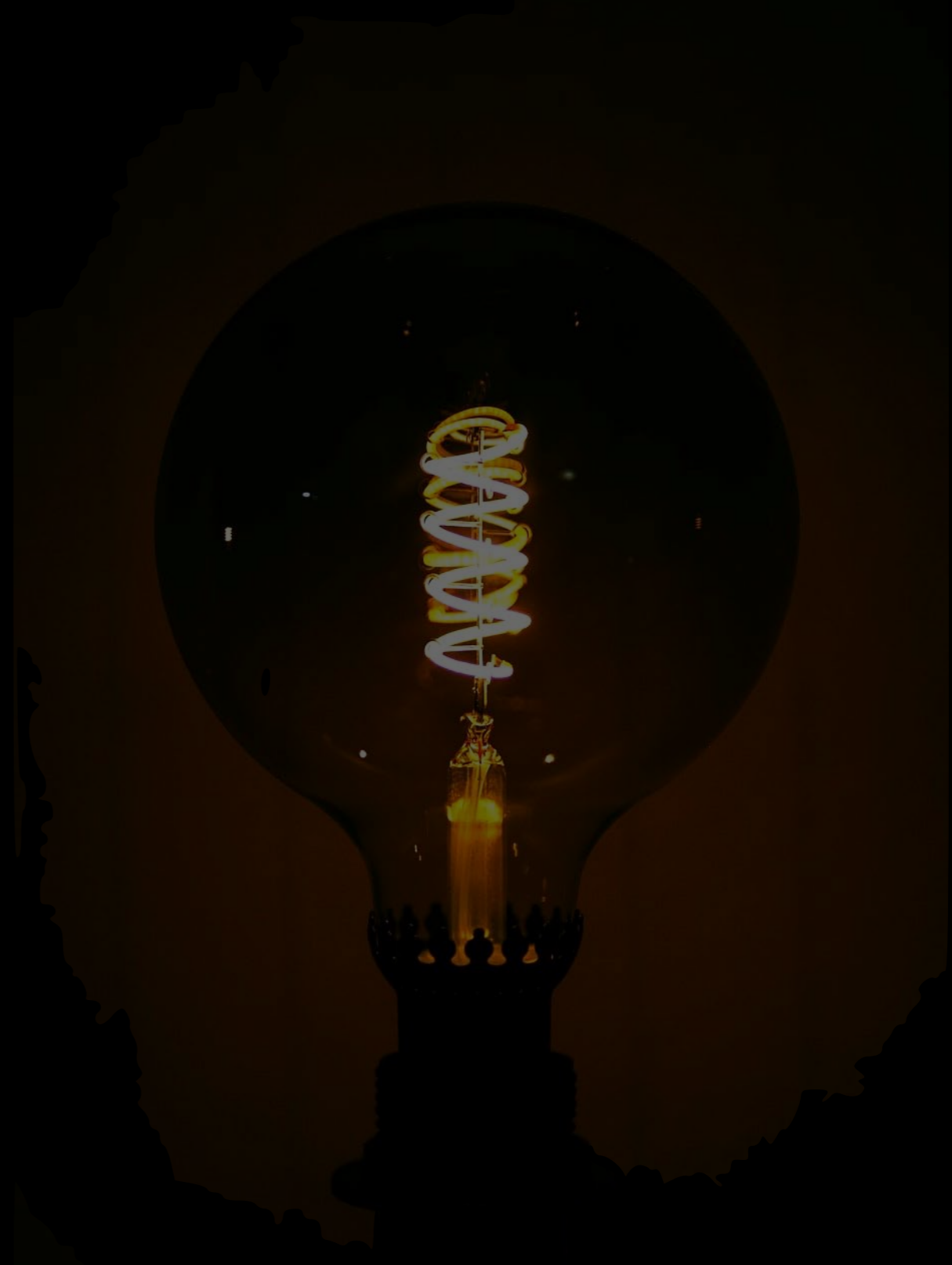
AM I LIT?!

On Fleek: being very good



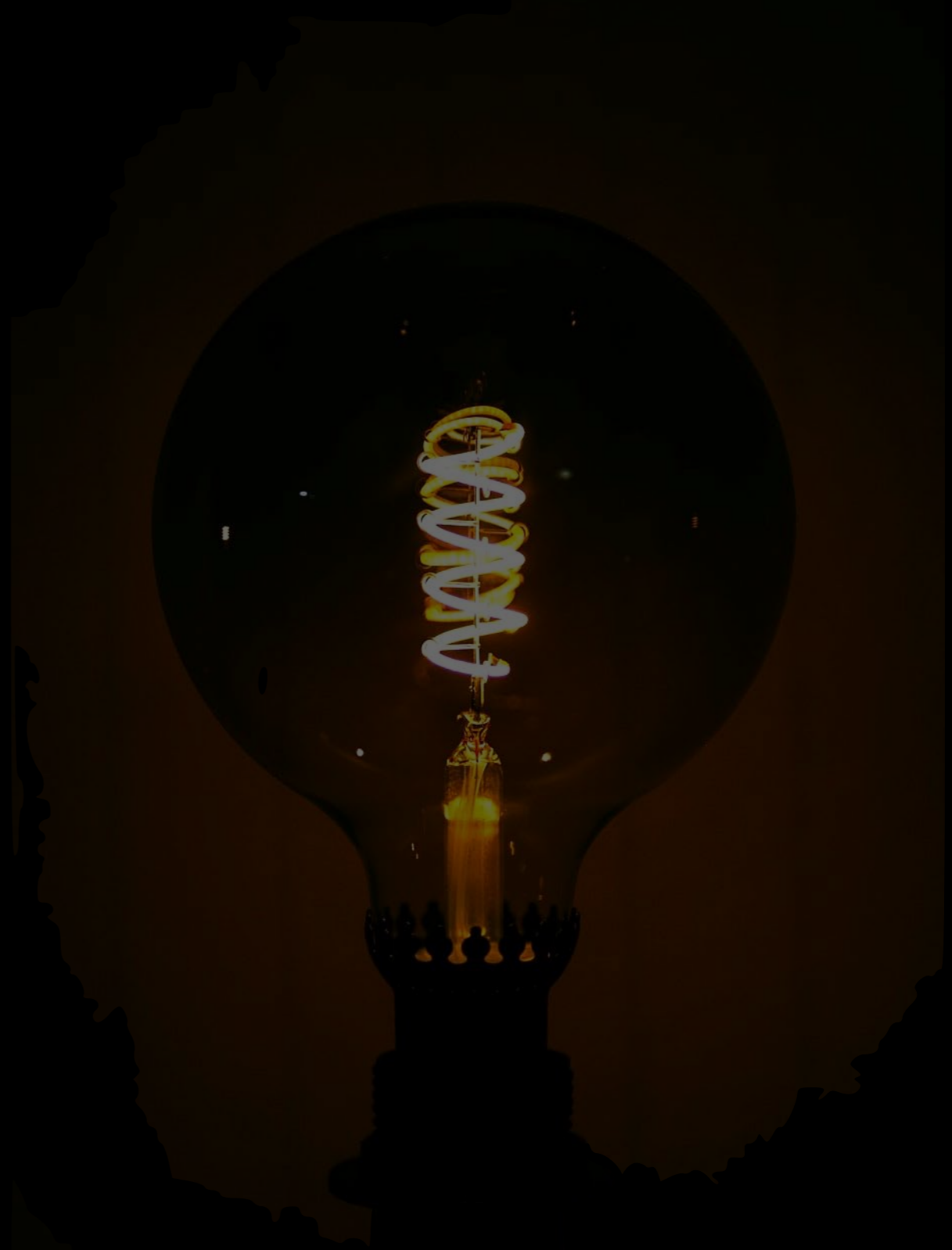
AM I LIT?!

Tea



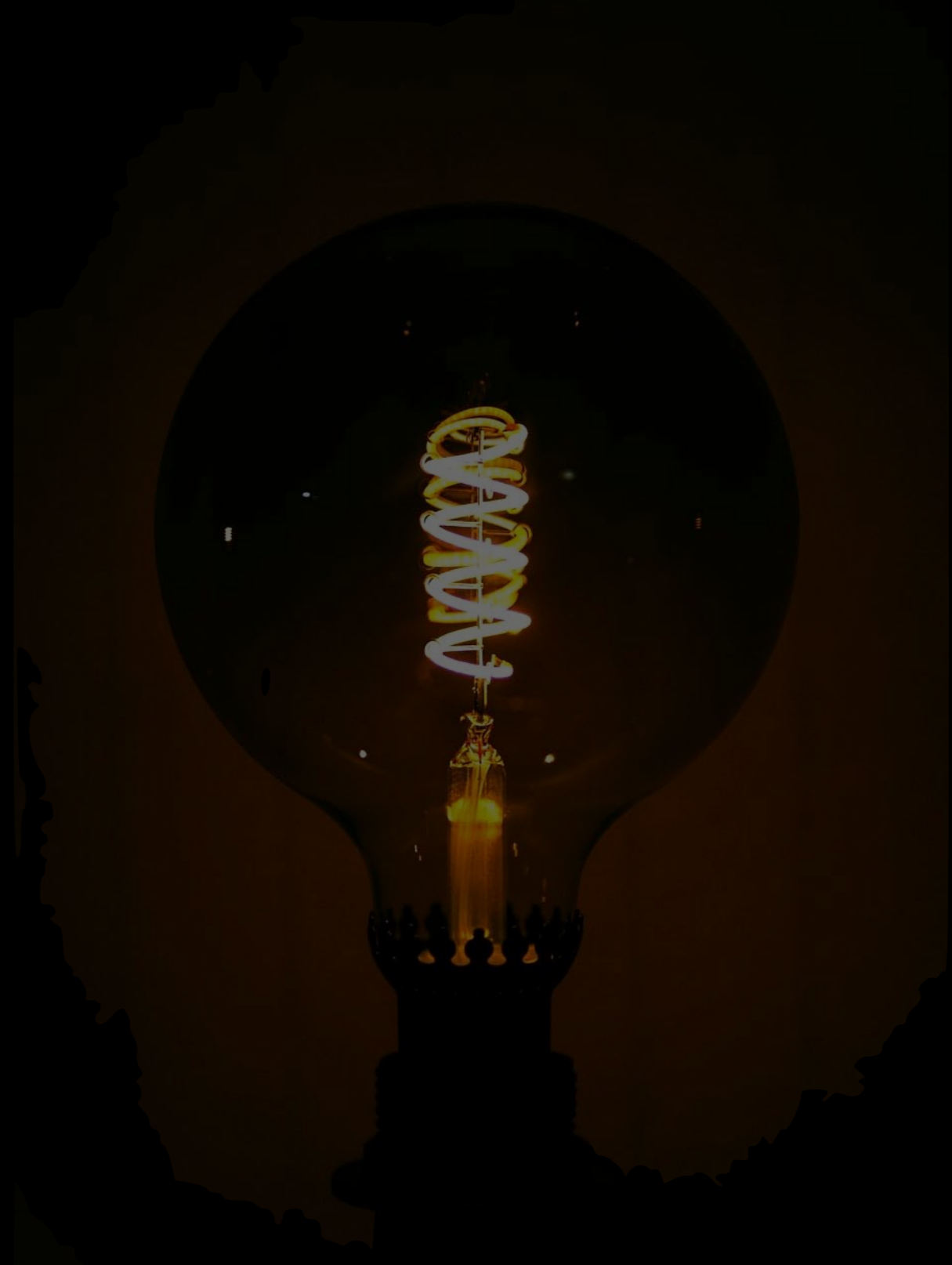
AM I LIT?!

Tea: hot gossip



AM I LIT?!

FOMO



AM I LIT?!

FOMO: Fear of missing out

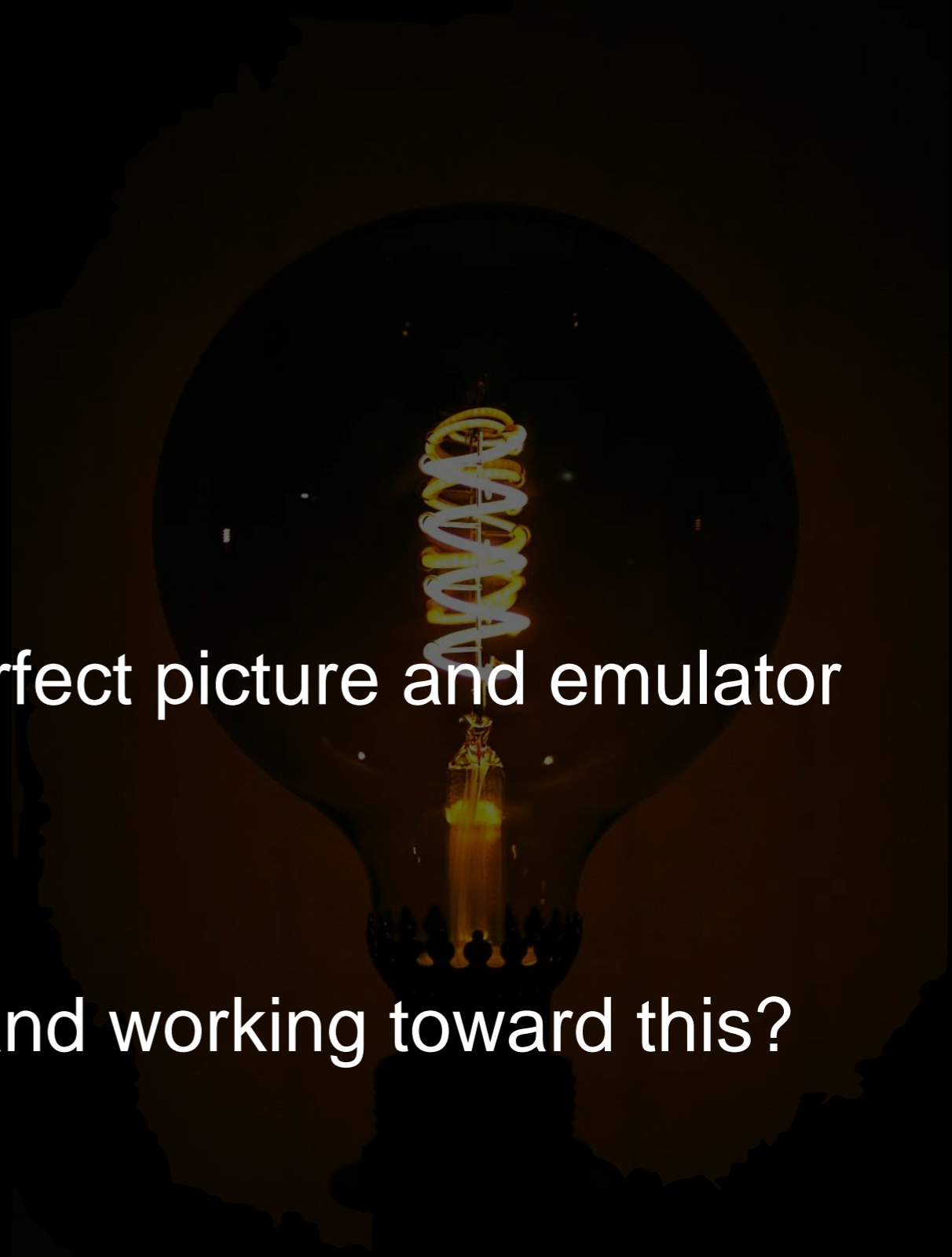
A glowing lightbulb with a filament inside, set against a dark background with a faint silhouette of a person's head.

AM I LIT?

- If you want to know whether the light is shining on and through you, this is the scriptural measure...
- 1 John 2:3 “We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. 4 Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. 5 But if anyone obeys his word, love for God is truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: 6 Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.”

AM I LIT?

- Does this mean being the perfect picture and emulator of Christ on earth?
 - No! Impossible!
- Does it mean seeking to be and working toward this?
 - Yes!

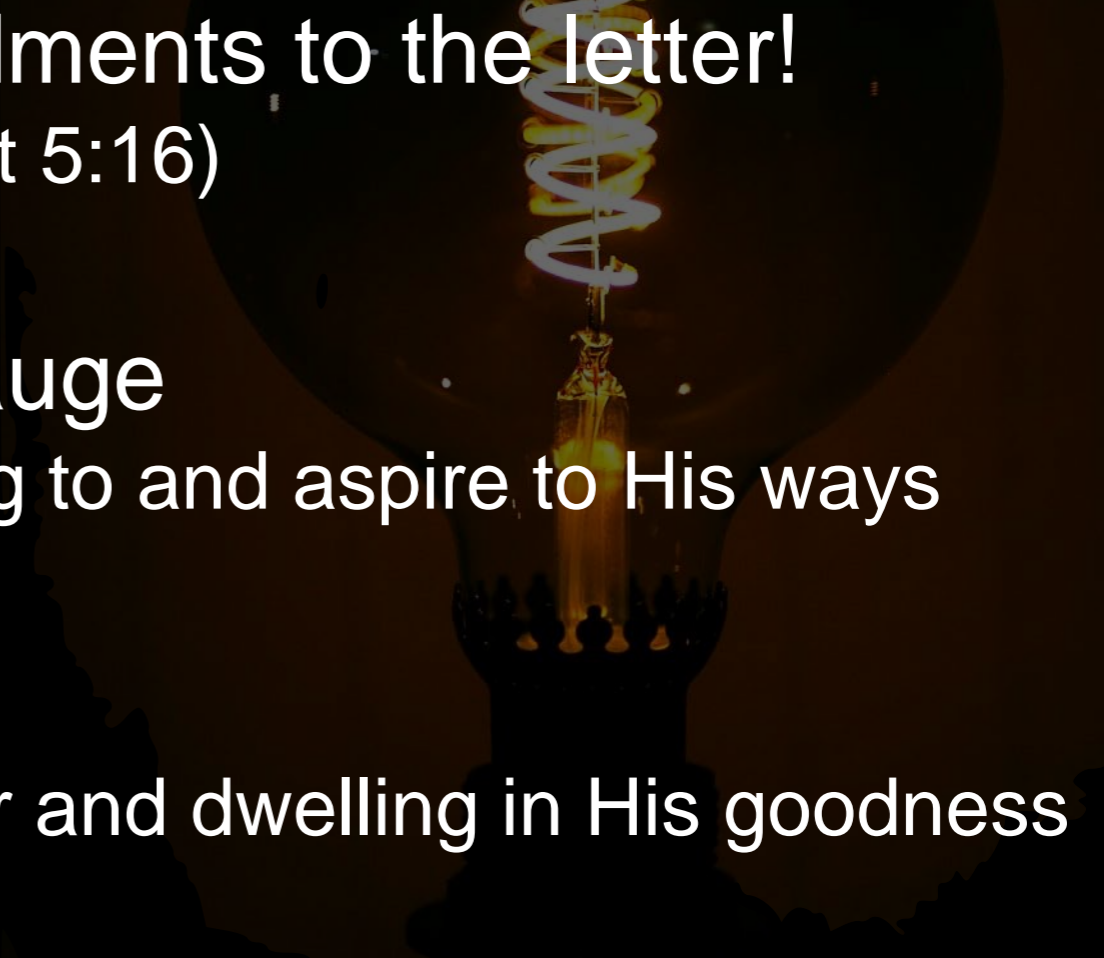


KEEP WHAT COMMANDS?

- 1 John 1:4 “Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar”
- John 14:15 “If you love me, keep my commands.”
- Let us start with what He said were greatest:
- Matthew 22:37 “Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

LOVE GOD LOVE PEOPLE CARU DUW CARU POBL

TO LIVE AS JESUS DID

- He 'lived out' these commandments to the letter!
 - He came to FULFIL the law (Matt 5:16)
 - He is our example and our gauge
 - We measure ourselves according to and aspire to His ways
 - Loving God - seeing light
 - Living with devotion to the Father and dwelling in His goodness
 - Loving People - being light
 - Reflecting His love and shining light into the lives of others
- 
- A glowing lightbulb with a spiral filament, symbolizing light and inspiration. The lightbulb is the central focus of the right side of the slide, set against a dark background with a faint silhouette of a person's head and shoulders. The light from the bulb creates a soft glow around it.

TRUE LIGHT IS ALREADY SHINING

- 1 John 2:7 “Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command but an old one, which you have had since the beginning. This old command is the message you have heard. 8 Yet I am writing you a new command; its truth is seen in him and in you, because the darkness is passing and the true light is already shining.”
- Both Christ AND is us
- And the world needs it

THE WORLD IS DESPERATE FOR THE LIGHT

If you look into the distance, there's a house upon the hill
Guiding like a lighthouse to a place where you'll be
Safe to feel our grace 'cause we've all made mistakes
If you've lost your way...

I will leave the light on
I will leave the light on
I will leave the light on
I will leave the light on

Songwriters: Steve Mac / Thomas Alexander Walker
Leave a Light On lyrics © Universal Music Publishing Group

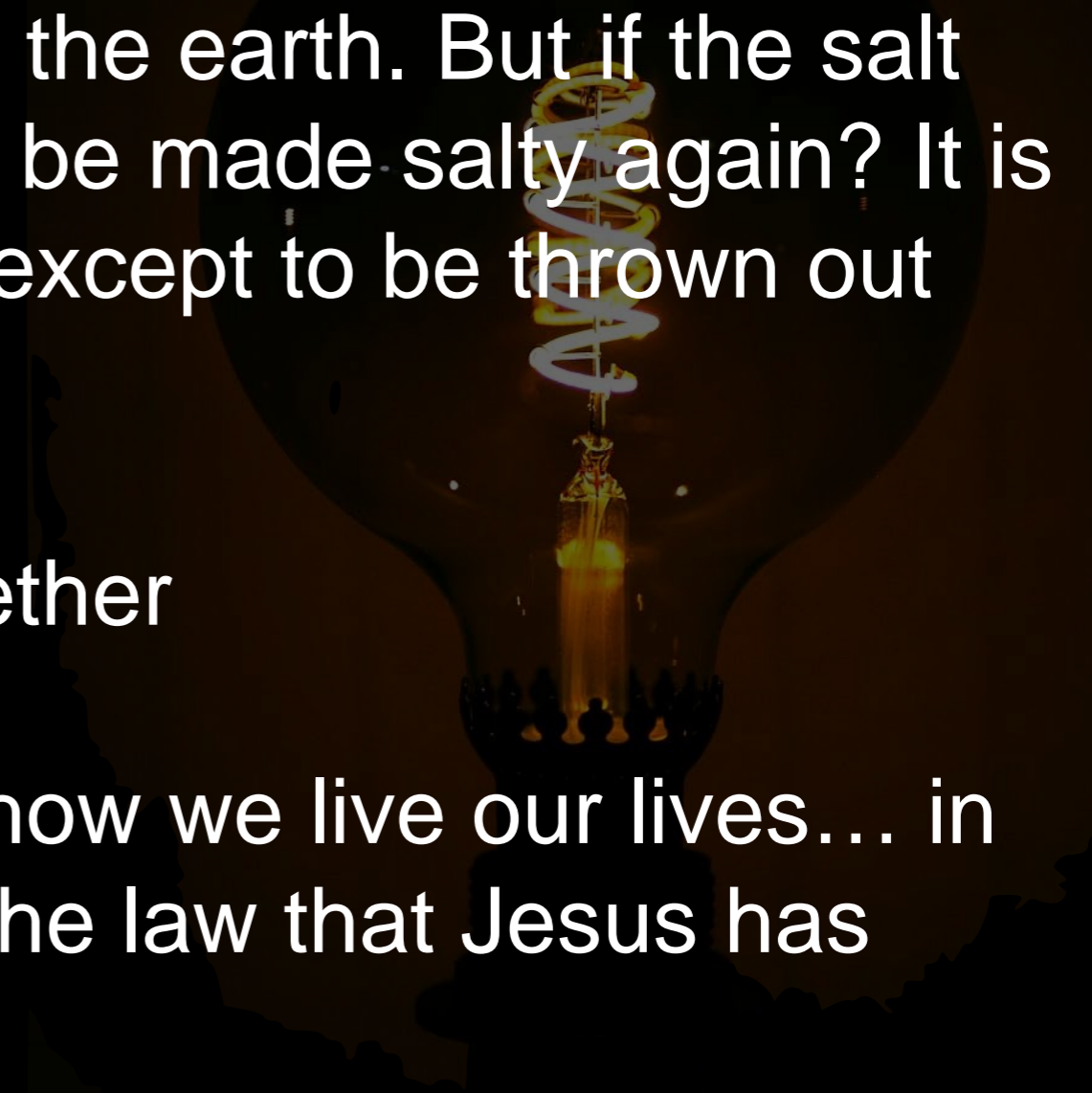
TRUE LIGHT IS ALREADY SHINING

- The light the world is desperate for is already shining - we must walk in it
- Matt 5:14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 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. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
- We must believe and receive the light, but the evidence of its reality must be LIVED OUT in our deeds and how we treat one another

WALKING IN LIGHT

- 1 John 2:9 “Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness.
10 Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. 11 But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.”
- Living out the truth = loving people ~ loving God

SALT AND LIGHT

- Matt 5:13 “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.”
 - Hate and light cannot go together
 - Matt 5 goes on to talk about how we live our lives... in carrying out the fulfilment of the law that Jesus has achieved
 - If we truly receive the light, we will truly live out the light
- 
- A glowing lightbulb with a spiral filament, symbolizing light and inspiration. The lightbulb is the central focus of the image, with a warm, golden glow emanating from it. The filament is a spiral shape, and the bulb is set against a dark background. The overall image has a soft, ethereal quality.

SEE LIGHT

- Let us return to John's purpose in writing and examine our own hearts: that we may not sin
 - Let us turn to the light who is our advocate in heaven and receive His forgiveness and righteousness
 - Let us 'live out' the light in a world that desperately needs to see more clearly
- 