

A photograph of a forest path. Sunlight filters through the dense green canopy of tall trees, creating a misty, ethereal atmosphere. The path is covered in fallen leaves and dappled with sunlight. The text 'PROVERBS' is overlaid in large white letters, with a horizontal line underneath it.

PROVERBS

SEARCHING FOR WISDOM

Wisdom tells the story of every sin



When I was still just a kid, I remember my father telling me what he thought that it took for a man to be happy. Simple things, really. A wife he loves, a decent job, friends and neighbors who like and respect him. And for a while there, without hardly even realizing it, I had all that. I was a happy man.

Hank Mitchell

A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees, creating a serene and somewhat mysterious atmosphere. The path is wet and reflects the light, leading the viewer's eye into the distance.

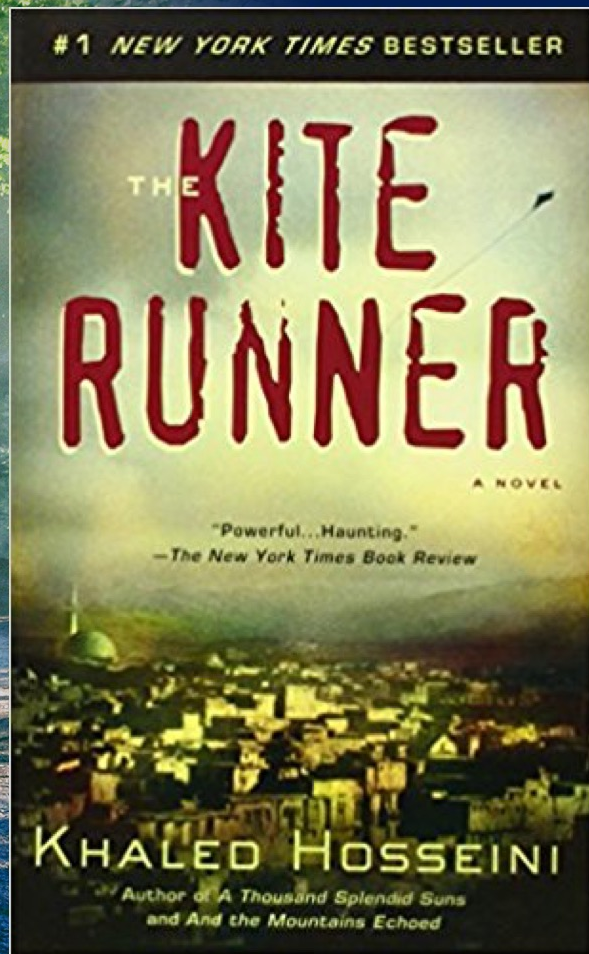
If they say, “Come with us, let us lie in
wait for blood;

let us ambush the innocent
without reason;


like Sheol let us swallow them alive,
and whole, like those who go
down to the pit; (11,12)



Vincent van Gogh: The Good Samaritan



There is only one sin, only one. And that is theft. Every other sin is a variation of theft. When you kill a man, you steal a life... you steal his wife's right to a husband, rob his children of a father. When you tell a lie, you steal someone's right to the truth. When you cheat, you steal the right to fairness... there is no act more wretched than stealing

A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees, creating a serene and atmospheric scene. The path is wet and reflects the light, leading the viewer's eye into the distance. The trees are tall and dense, with their leaves creating a canopy overhead.

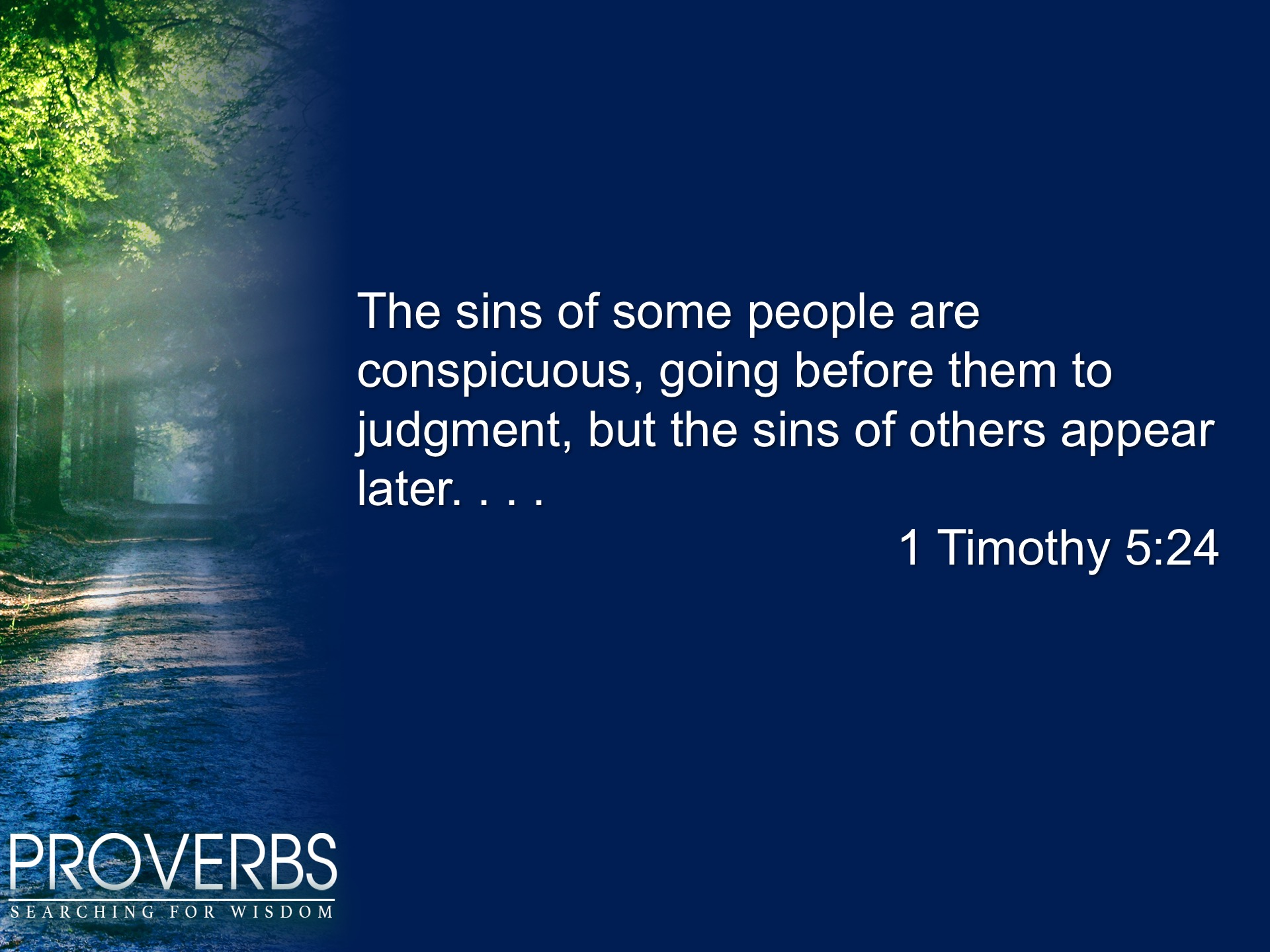
we shall find all precious goods,
we shall fill our houses with plunder;
throw in your lot among us;
we will all have one purse”—
(13, 14)

A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees, creating a serene and atmospheric scene. The path is wet and reflects the light, leading the viewer's eye into the distance. The trees are tall and slender, with their leaves creating a canopy overhead. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

For in vain is a net spread
in the sight of any bird,

but these men lie in wait for their own
blood;
they set an ambush
for their own lives.

(17, 18)

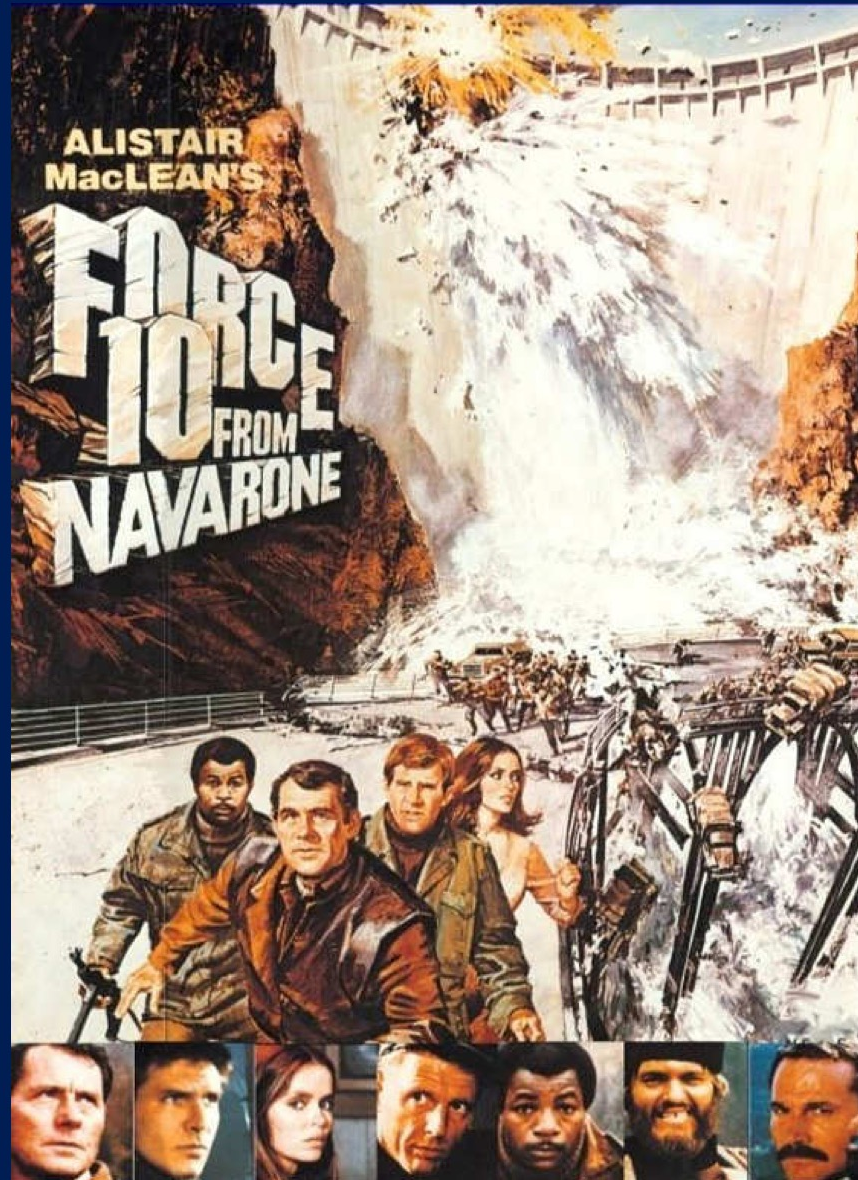
A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees. The path is wet and reflective, and the trees are tall and slender. The overall atmosphere is serene and contemplative.

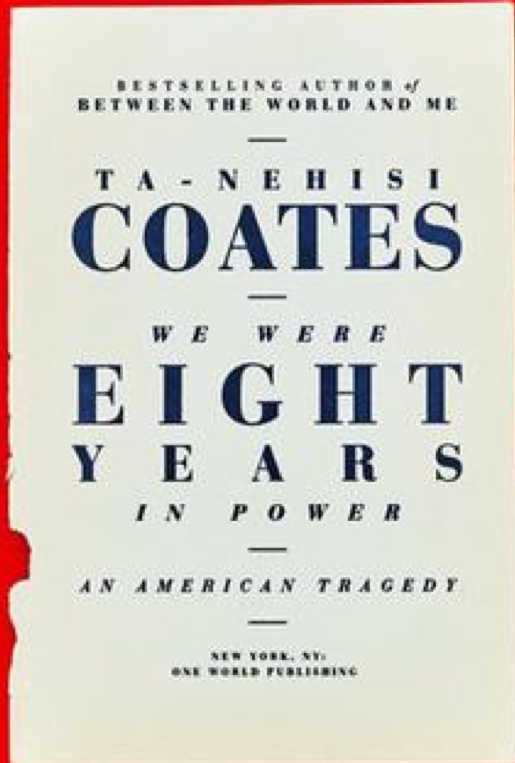
The sins of some people are
conspicuous, going before them to
judgment, but the sins of others appear
later. . . .

1 Timothy 5:24

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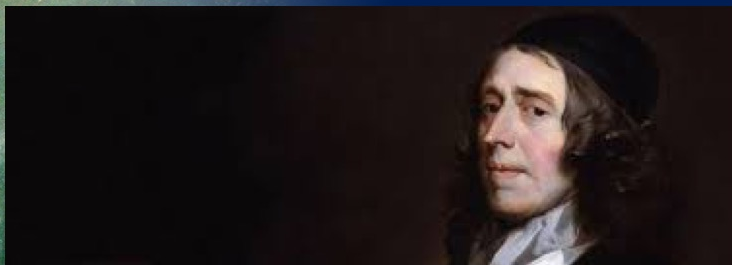
Nothing in the record of human history argues for divine morality and a great deal argues against it. What we know is that good people very often suffer terribly, while the perpetrators of horrific evil backstroke though all the pleasures of the world. There is no evidence that the score is ever evened in this life or any after.

A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees, creating a serene and spiritual atmosphere. The path is wet and reflects the light, leading the viewer's eye into the distance.

For while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

.. .if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Romans (5:10, 12)



John Owen

*a sense of the love of
Christ in the cross; lie at
the bottom of all true
spiritual mortification. . . .
be killing sin or it will be
killing you.*