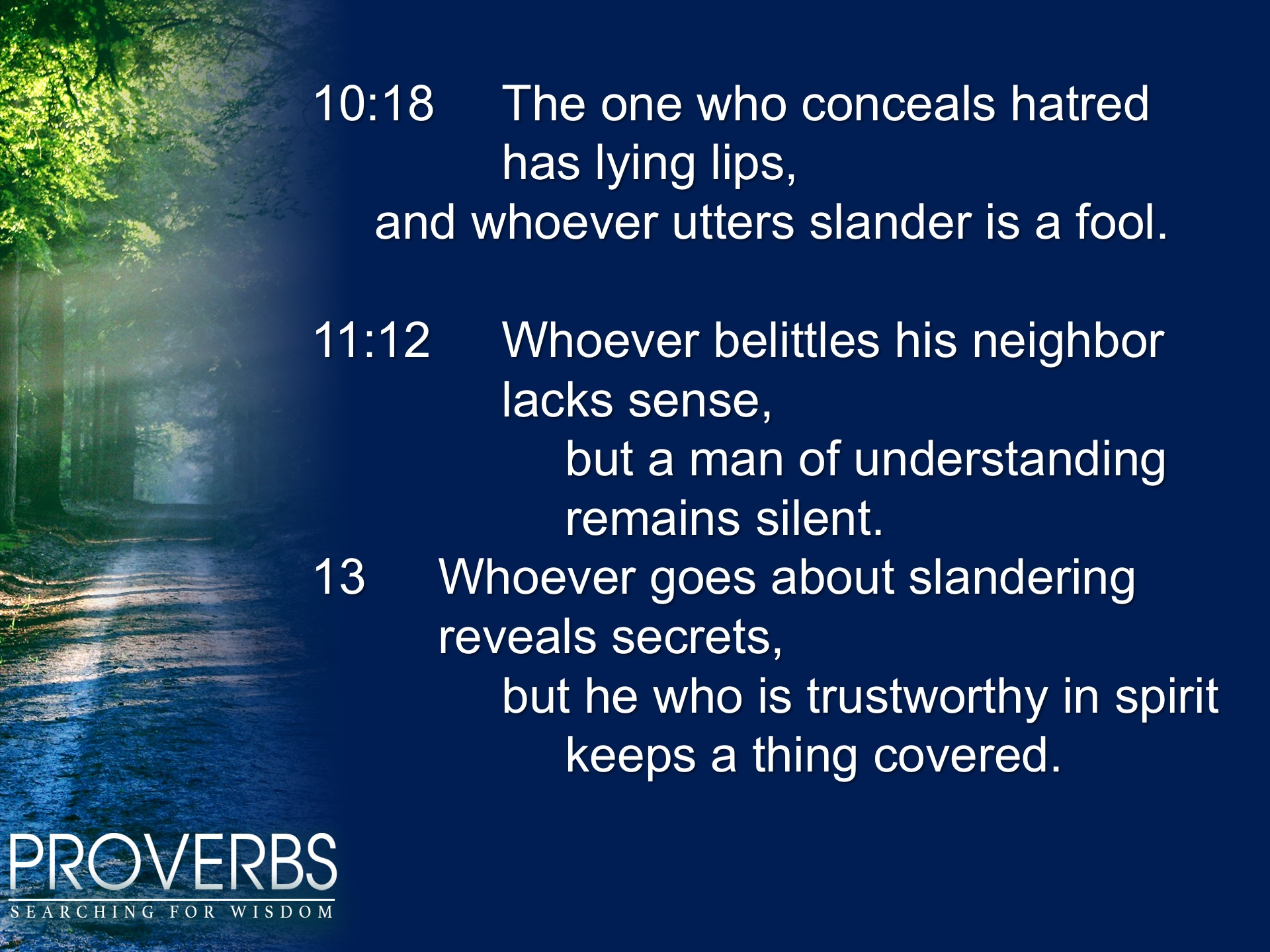


A photograph of a forest path. Sunlight filters through the trees, creating a hazy, golden atmosphere. The path is dirt and leads into the distance. The trees are tall and thin, with dense green foliage. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

PROVERBS

SEARCHING FOR WISDOM

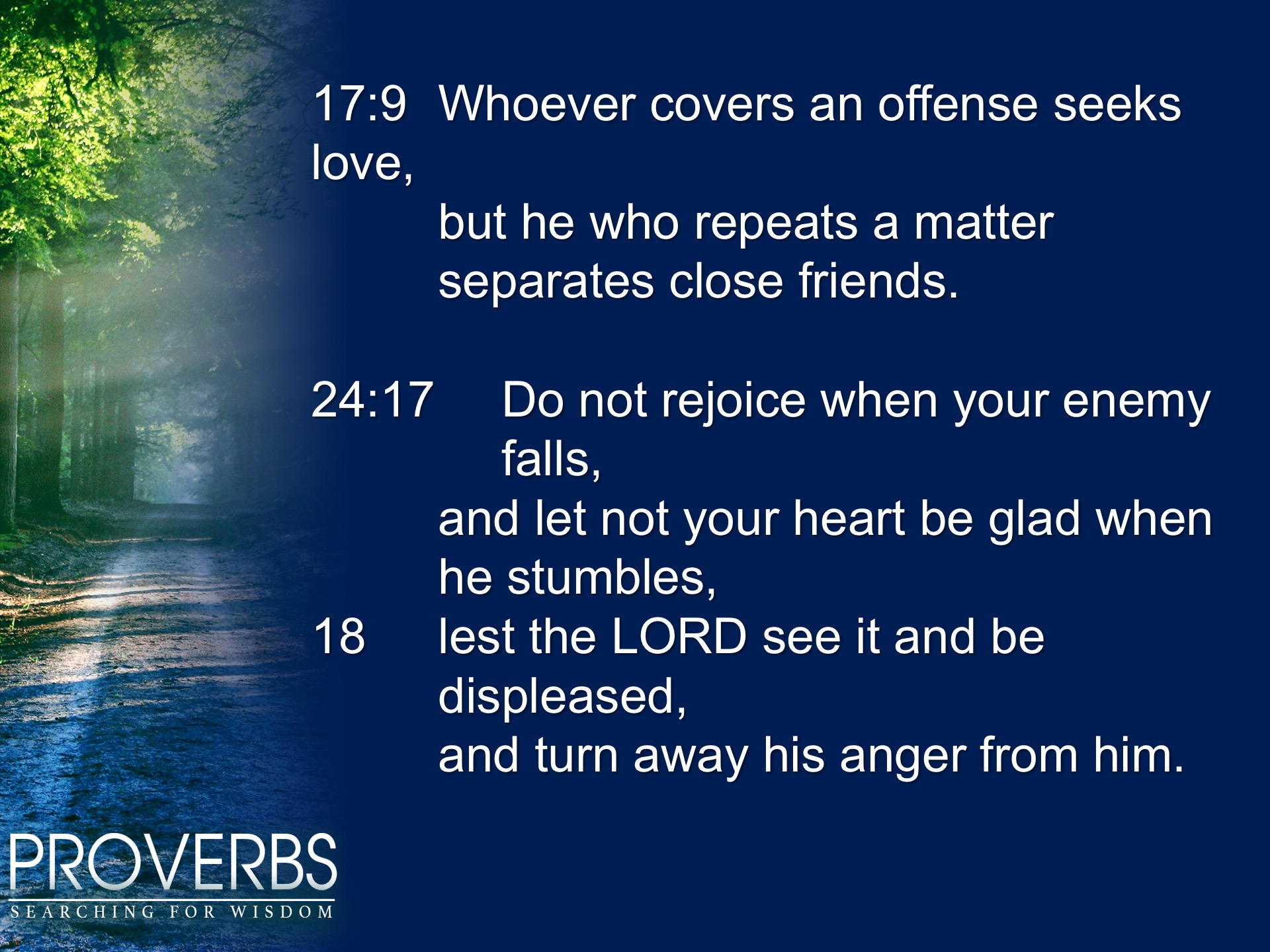
Wisdom to be for someone you're against

A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees. The path is wet and reflects the light. The trees are tall and thin, with green leaves. The overall atmosphere is serene and quiet.

10:18 The one who conceals hatred
has lying lips,
and whoever utters slander is a fool.

11:12 Whoever belittles his neighbor
lacks sense,
but a man of understanding
remains silent.

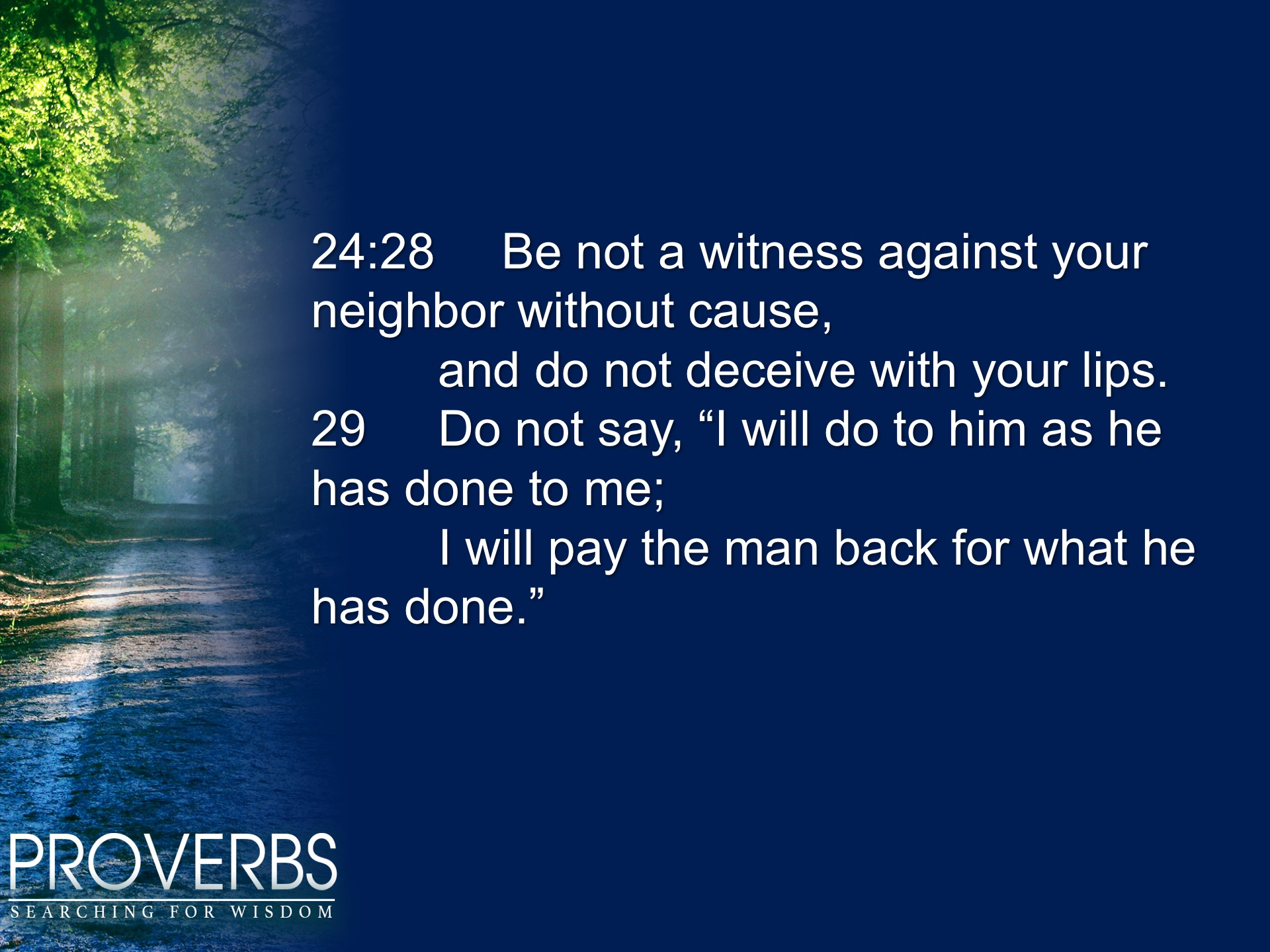
13 Whoever goes about slandering
reveals secrets,
but he who is trustworthy in spirit
keeps a thing covered.



17:9 Whoever covers an offense seeks
love,
but he who repeats a matter
separates close friends.

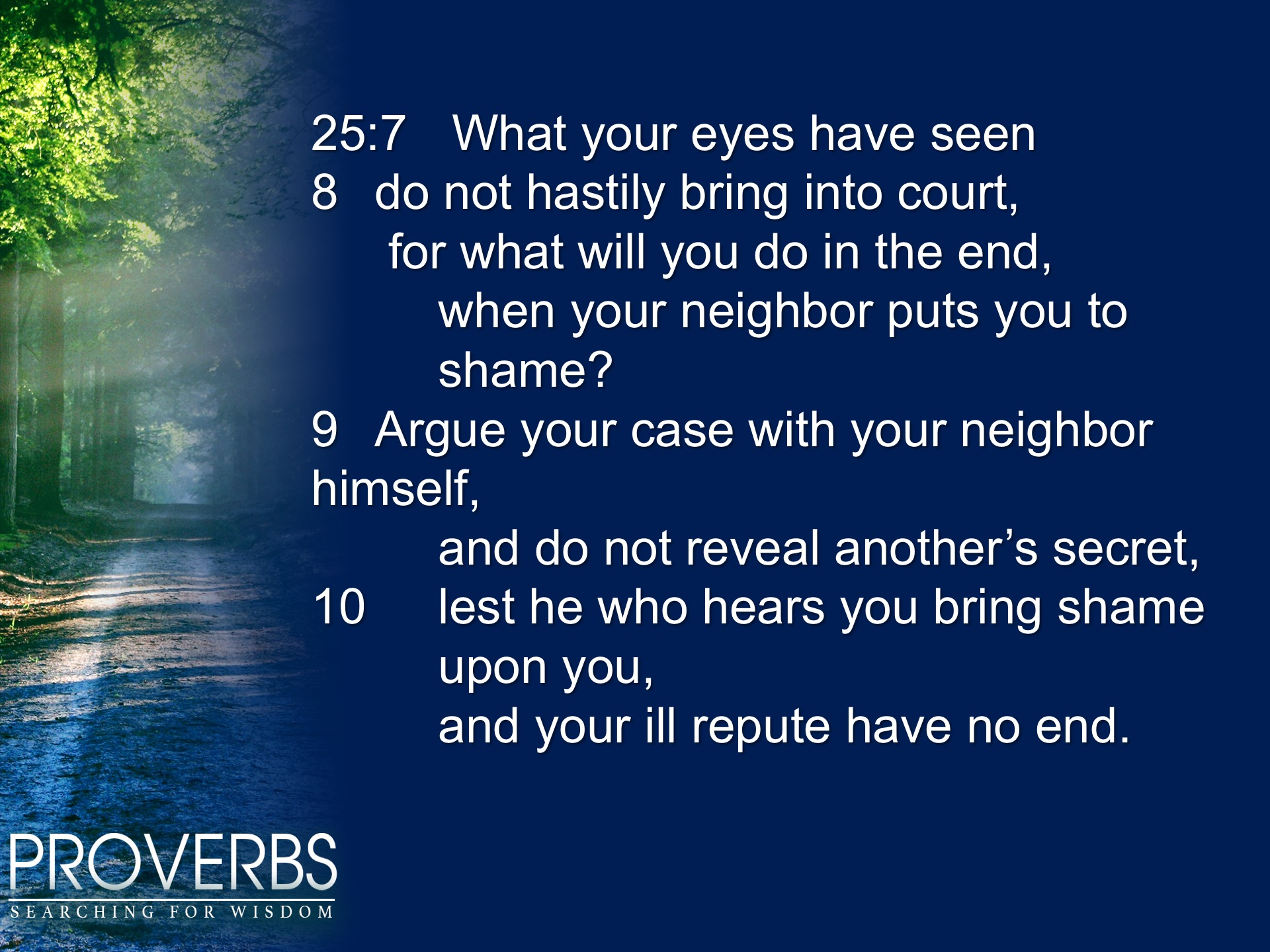
24:17 Do not rejoice when your enemy
falls,
and let not your heart be glad when
he stumbles,

18 lest the LORD see it and be
displeased,
and turn away his anger from him.

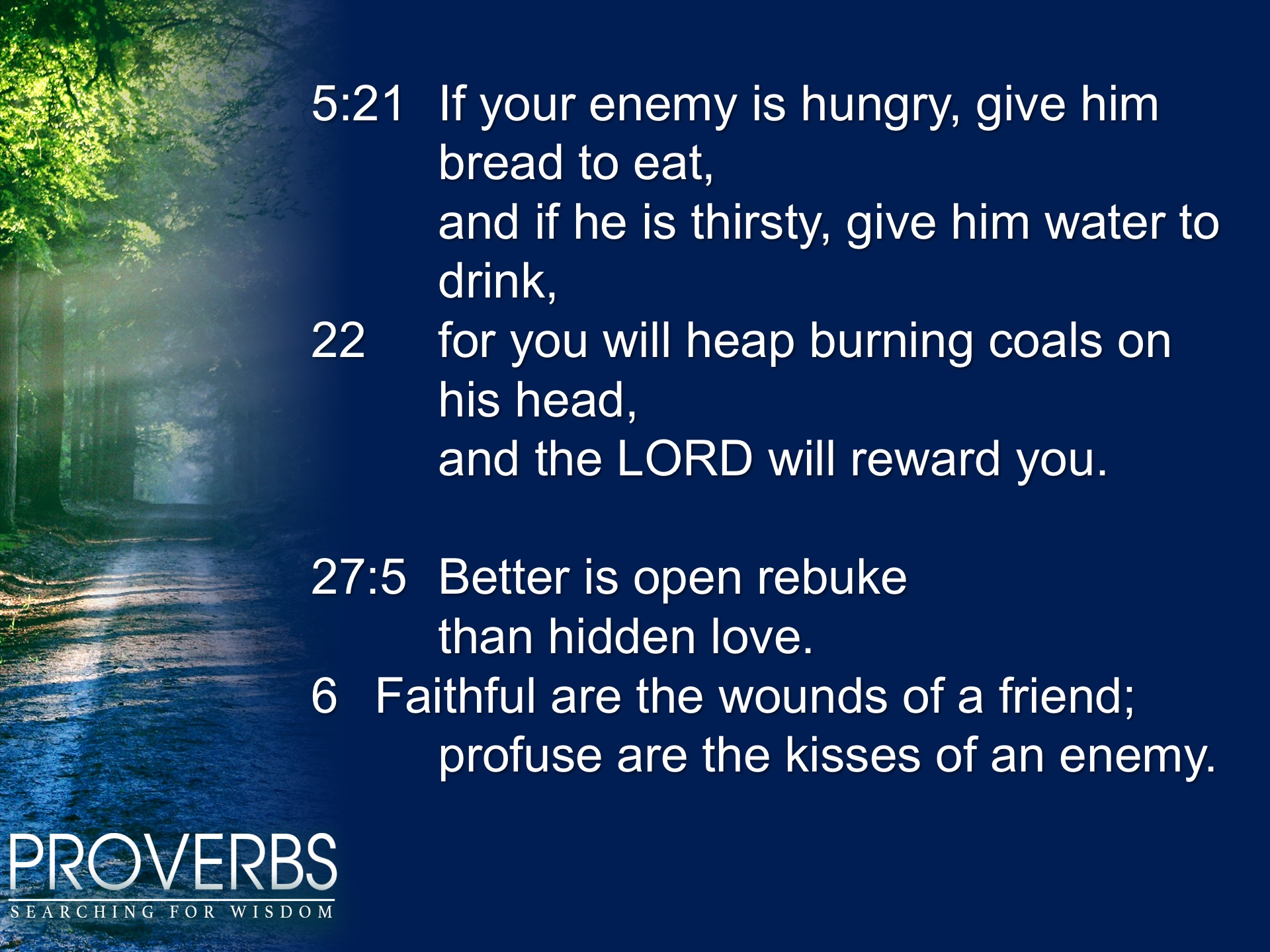
A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees. The path is wet and reflects the light. The trees are tall and thin, with green leaves. The overall atmosphere is serene and quiet.

24:28 Be not a witness against your neighbor without cause,
and do not deceive with your lips.

29 Do not say, “I will do to him as he has done to me;
I will pay the man back for what he has done.”

A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees. The path is wet and reflects the light. The trees are tall and thin, with green leaves. The overall atmosphere is serene and quiet.

25:7 What your eyes have seen
8 do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to
shame?
9 Argue your case with your neighbor
himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,
10 lest he who hears you bring shame
upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.



5:21 If your enemy is hungry, give him
bread to eat,
and if he is thirsty, give him water to
drink,

22 for you will heap burning coals on
his head,
and the LORD will reward you.

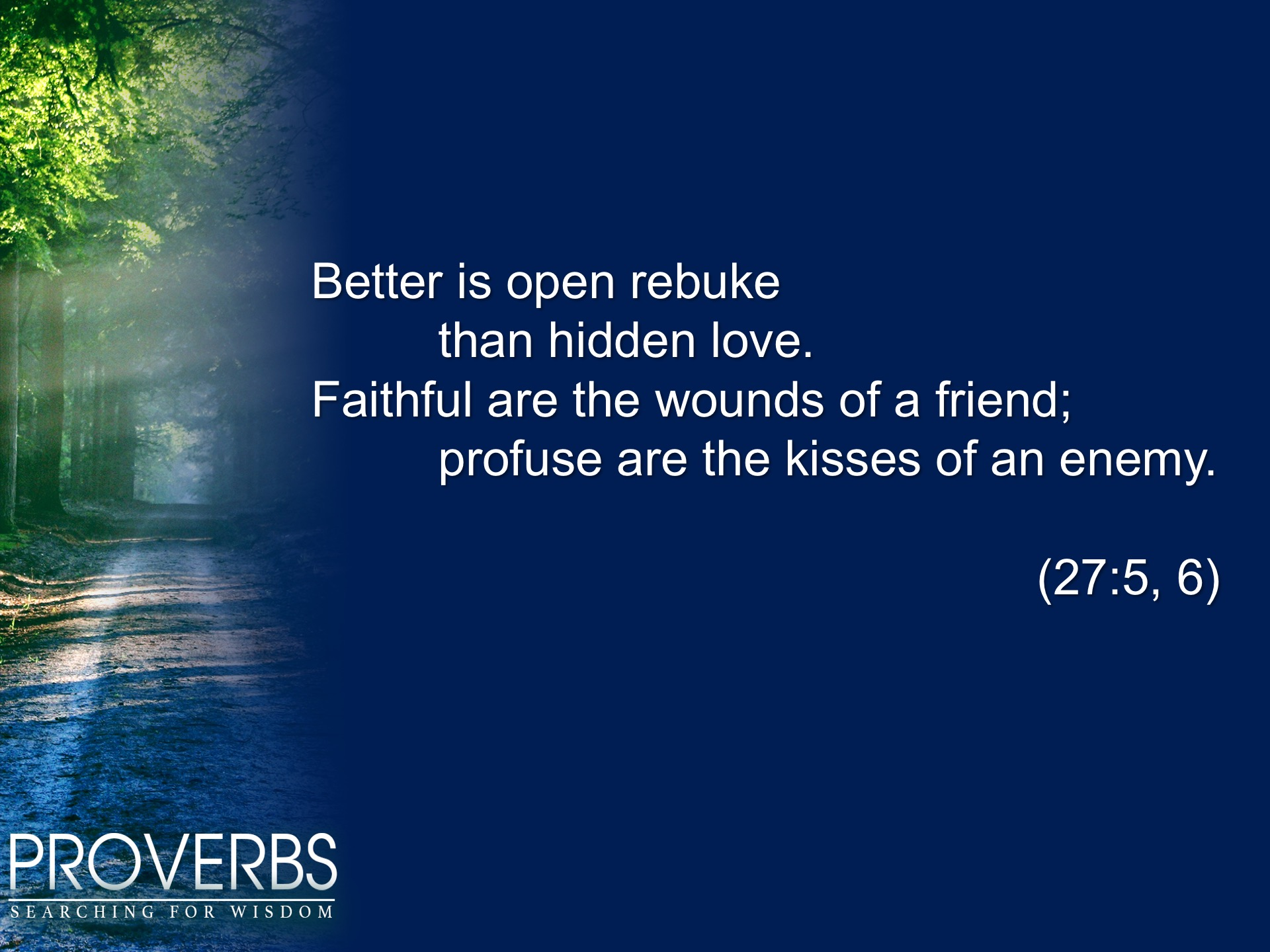
27:5 Better is open rebuke
than hidden love.

6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend;
profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees. The path is wet and reflects the light. The trees are tall and thin, with green leaves. The overall atmosphere is serene and somewhat mysterious.

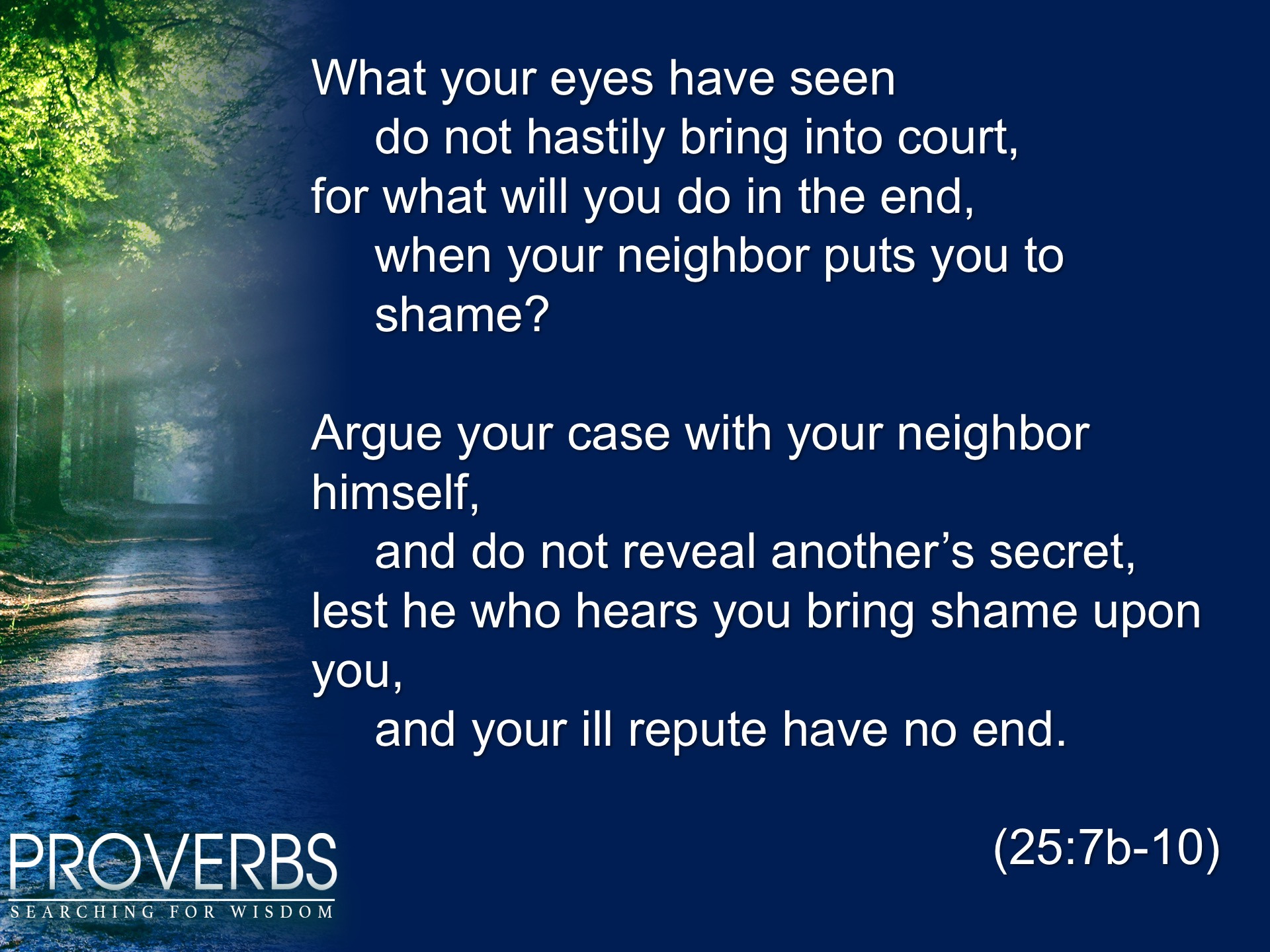
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(10:18)

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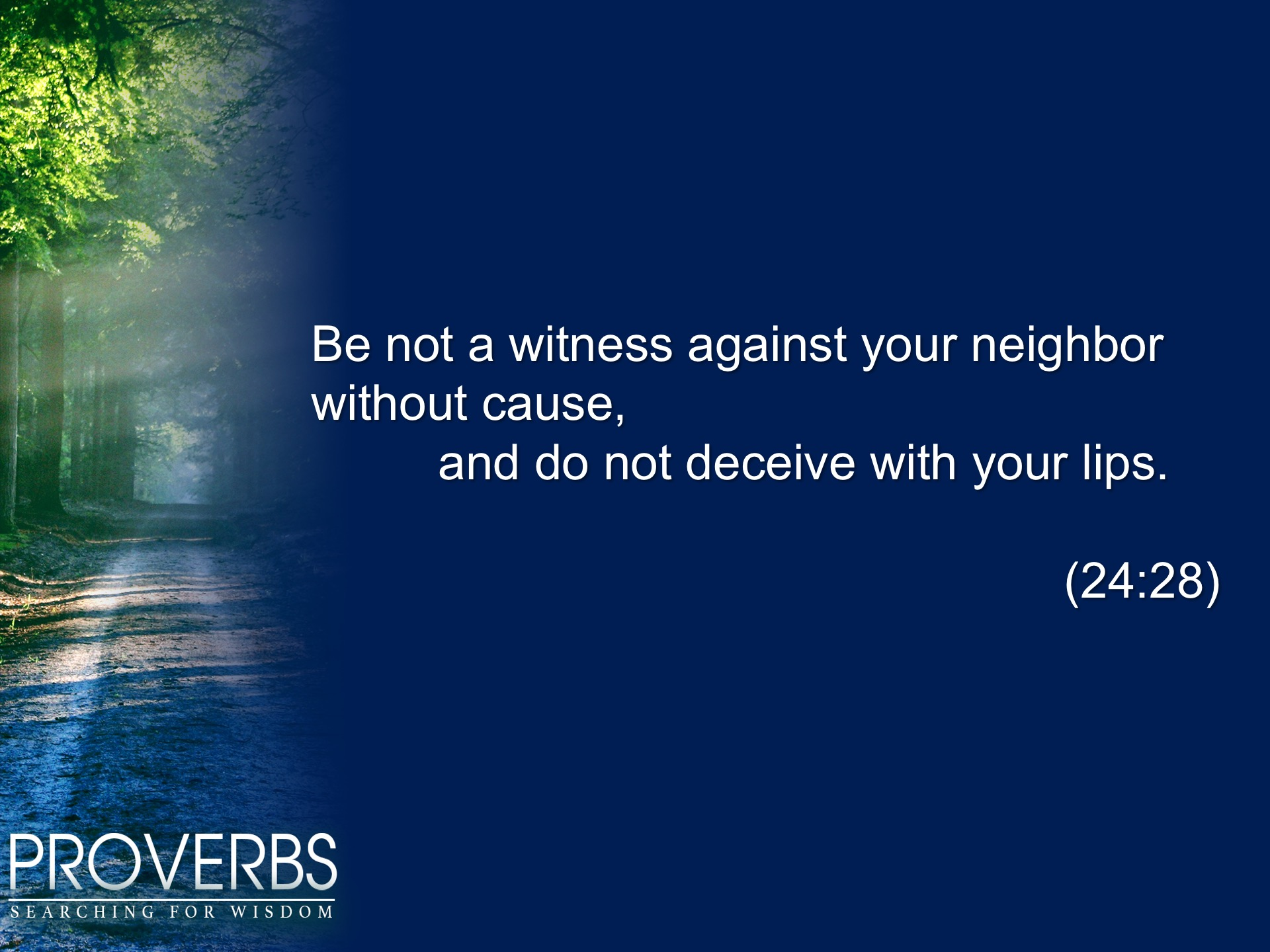
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than hidden love.
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(27:5, 6)

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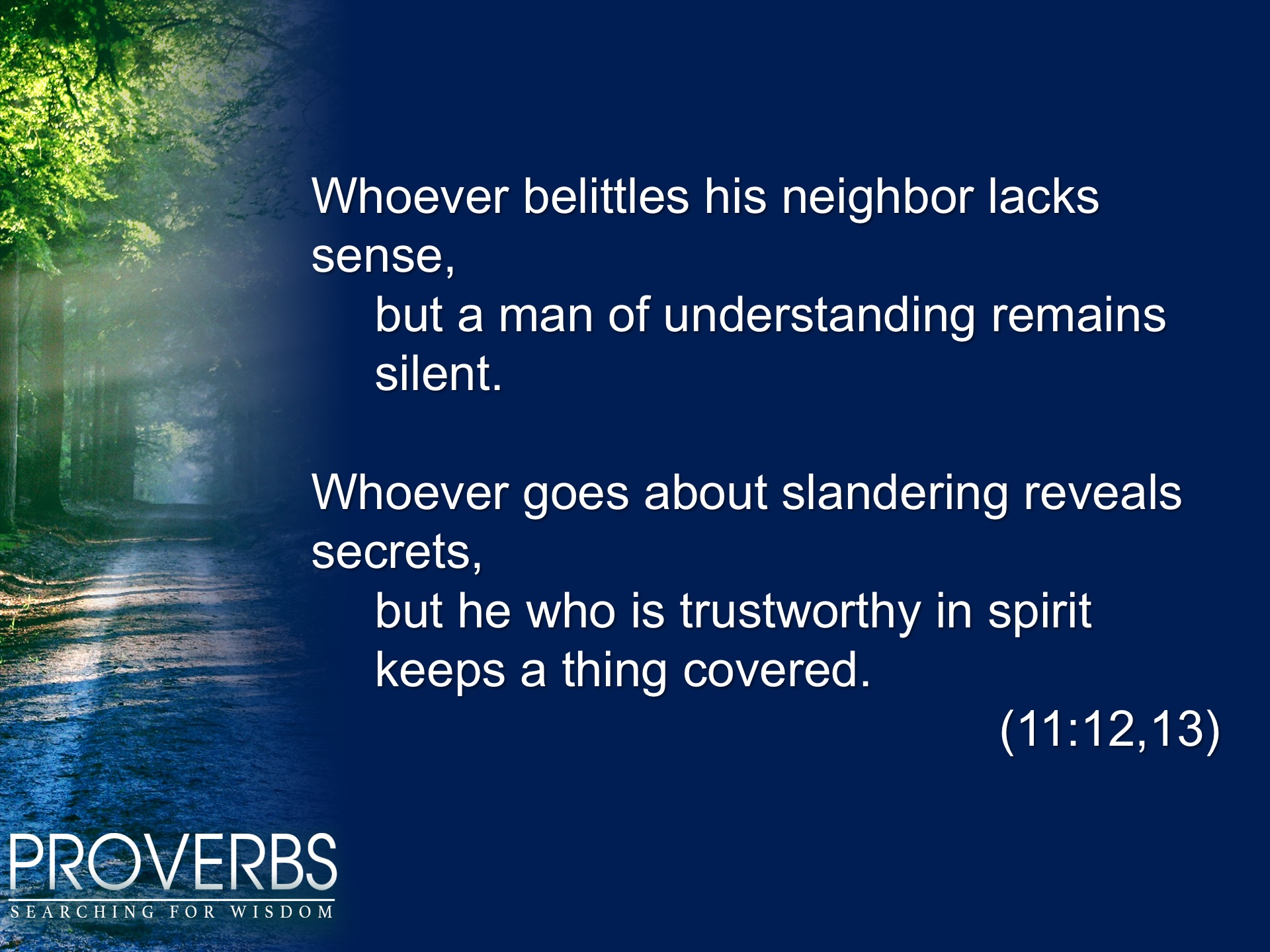
What your eyes have seen
do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to
shame?

Argue your case with your neighbor
himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,
lest he who hears you bring shame upon
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and your ill repute have no end.

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Be not a witness against your neighbor
without cause,
and do not deceive with your lips.

(24:28)

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but a man of understanding remains
silent.

Whoever goes about slandering reveals
secrets,
but he who is trustworthy in spirit
keeps a thing covered.

(11:12,13)

A misty forest path with sunlight filtering through the trees. The path is wet and reflects the light. The trees are tall and thin, with green leaves. The overall atmosphere is serene and peaceful.

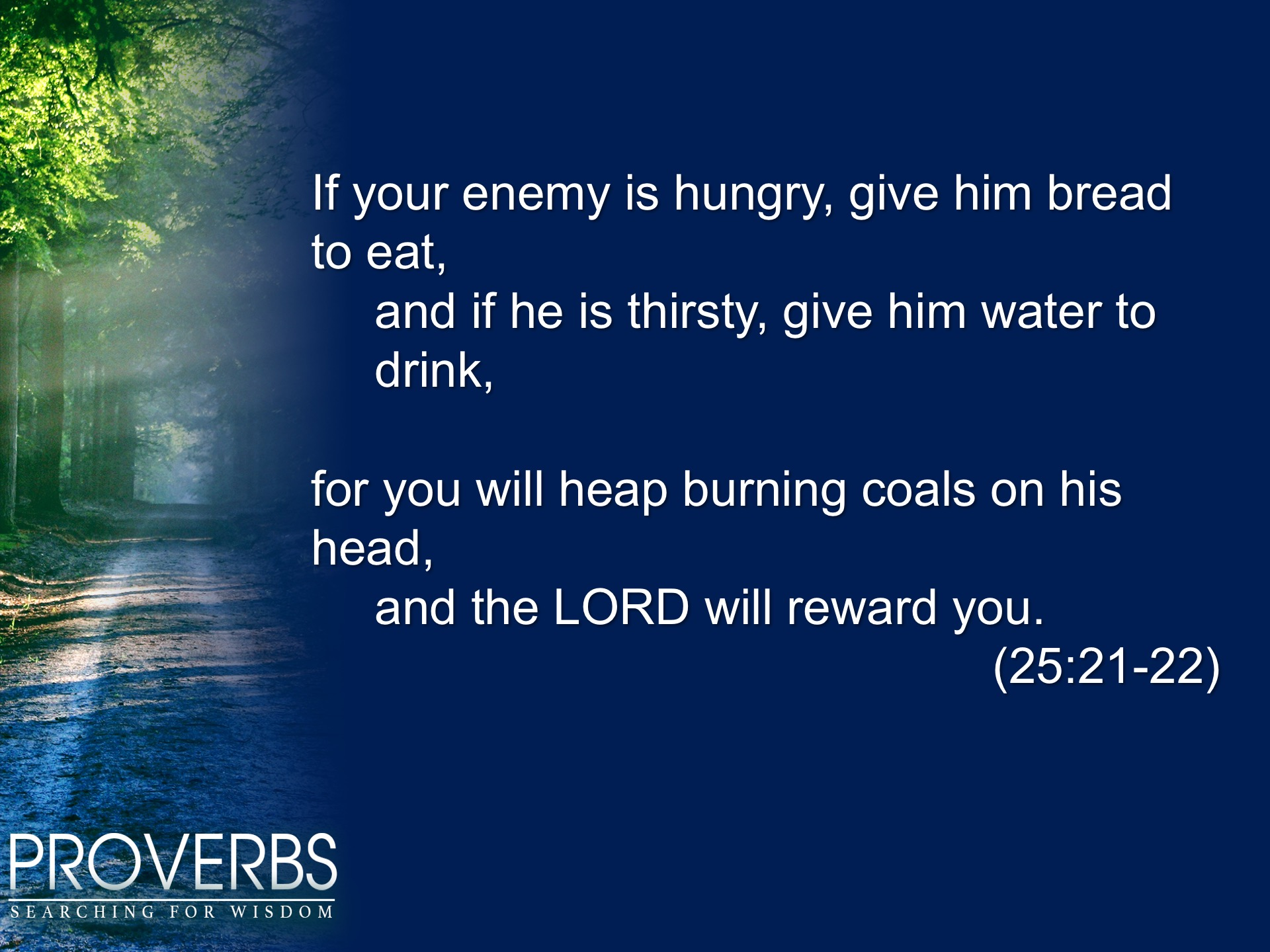
Be not a witness against your neighbor
without cause,

and do not deceive with your lips.

*Do not say, "I will do to him as he has
done to me;*

*I will pay the man back for what he
has done."*


(24:28, 29)

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(25:21-22)

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Whoever covers an offense seeks love,
but he who repeats a matter
separates close friends.

(17:9)

My faith in Jesus has enabled me to forgive those who have hurt and scarred me. It has enabled me to pray for my enemies rather than curse them. And it has enabled me not just to tolerate them but truly to love them.



Kim Phuc Phan Thi

Opinions

We are no longer capable of forgiving our enemies



Samantha Bee. (Amanda Edwards/Getty Images)



By **Elizabeth Bruenig** Opinion columnist June 1 [✉ Email the author](#)



Elizabeth Breunig

Forgiveness means having the technical right to exact some penalty but electing not to pursue it. This breaks the cycle of retribution with unearned, undeserved mercy....It is crucial to note that forgiveness doesn't preclude accountability: It's possible (and probably preferable) someone can both make restitution for their wrong and be forgiven.