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**A Study on the “Fool” from the Wisdom  
Literature in the Bible  
July 23, 2023**



# BAD LUCK

Right time, wrong place.



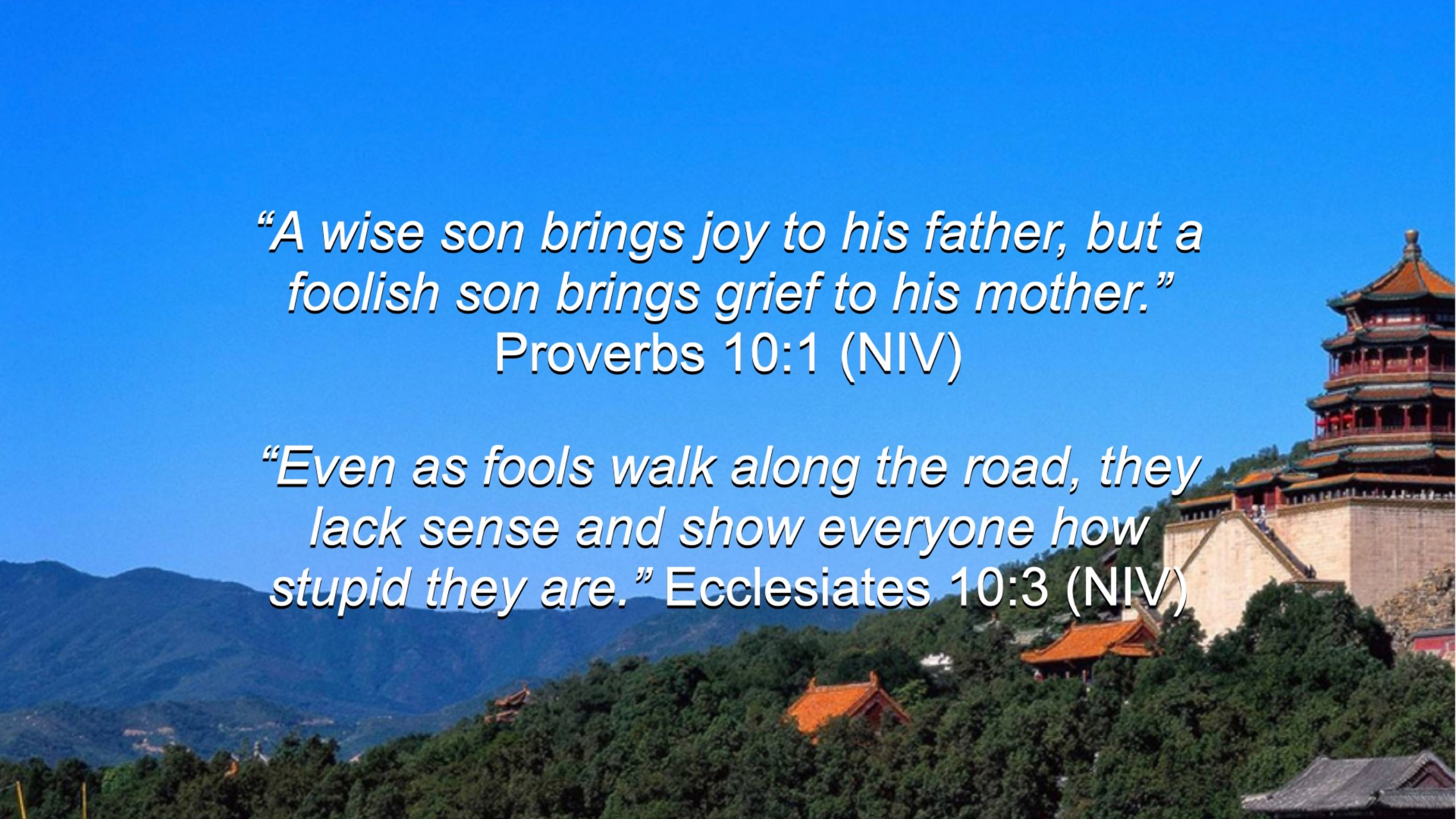


**Bad Luck: Right Place - Wrong Timing**



*“A wise son brings joy to his father, but a foolish son brings grief to his mother.”*  
Proverbs 10:1 (NIV)

*“Even as fools walk along the road, they lack sense and show everyone how stupid they are.”* Ecclesiastes 10:3 (NIV)







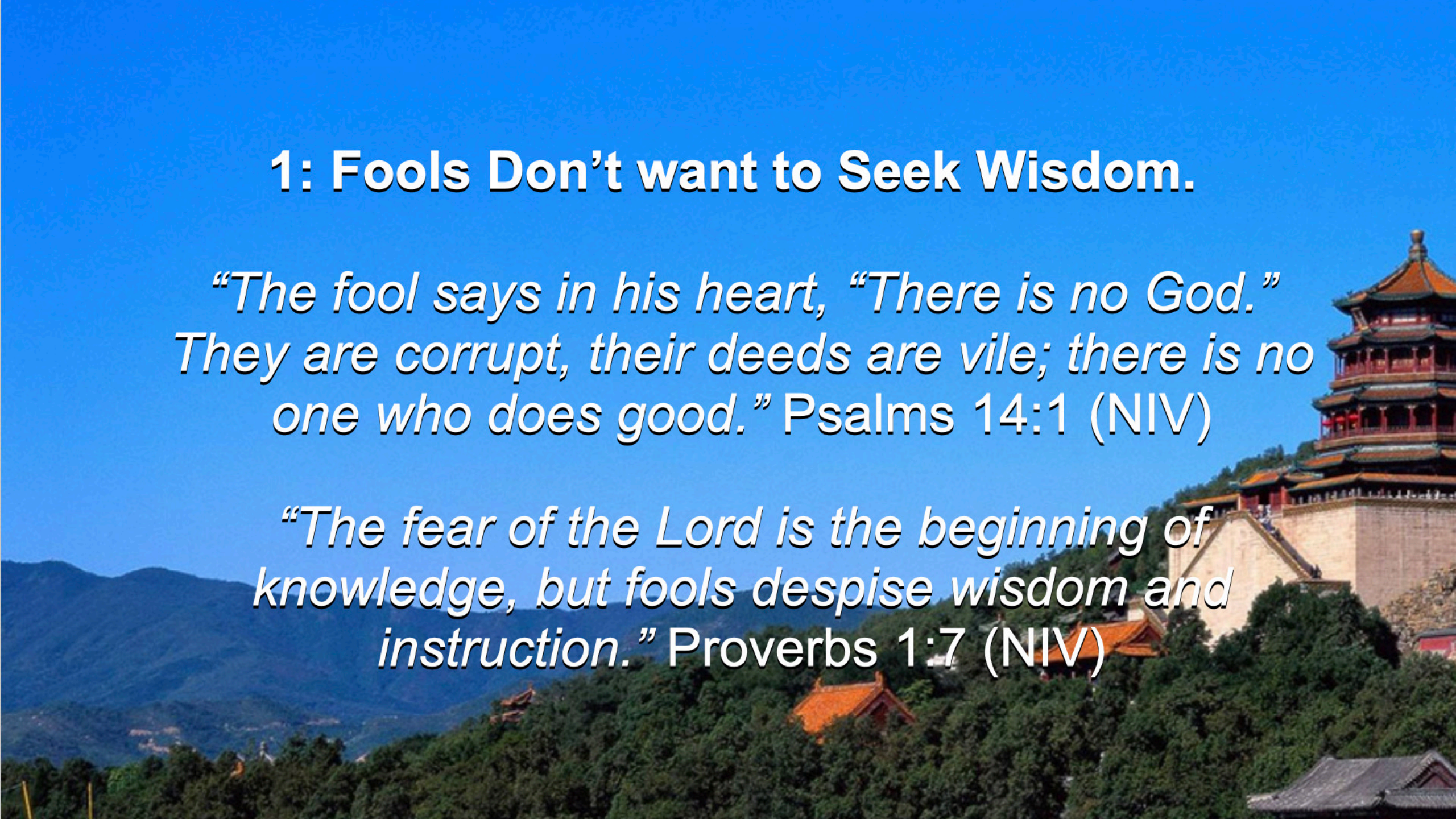
**1) 7 Types of Fools in the  
Wisdom Literature in the Bible:**



## 1: Fools Don't want to Seek Wisdom.

*“The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.” Psalms 14:1 (NIV)*

*“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” Proverbs 1:7 (NIV)*





## 2: Fools are Lazy (that destroys!).

*“For the waywardness of the simple will kill them,  
and the complacency of fools will destroy them;”*

Proverbs 1:32 (NIV)

*“Fools fold their hands and ruin themselves.”*

Ecclesiastes 4:5 (NIV)





### 3: Fools Delight in Evil.

*“A fool finds pleasure in wicked schemes, but a person of understanding delights in wisdom.”*

Proverbs 10:23 (NIV)

“A longing fulfilled is sweet to the soul, but fools detest turning from *evil*.” Proverbs 13:19 (NIV)





## 4: Fools are Self-Righteous.

*“The way of fools seems right to them, but the wise listen to advice.” Proverbs 12:15 (NIV)*

*“Those who trust in themselves are fools, but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe.”  
Proverbs 28:26 (NIV)*

*“If you play the fool and exalt yourself, or if you plan evil, clap your hand over your mouth!”  
Proverbs 30:32 (NIV)*





*“Pride comes before disaster, and arrogance before a fall.”*  
Proverbs 16:18 (CEB)



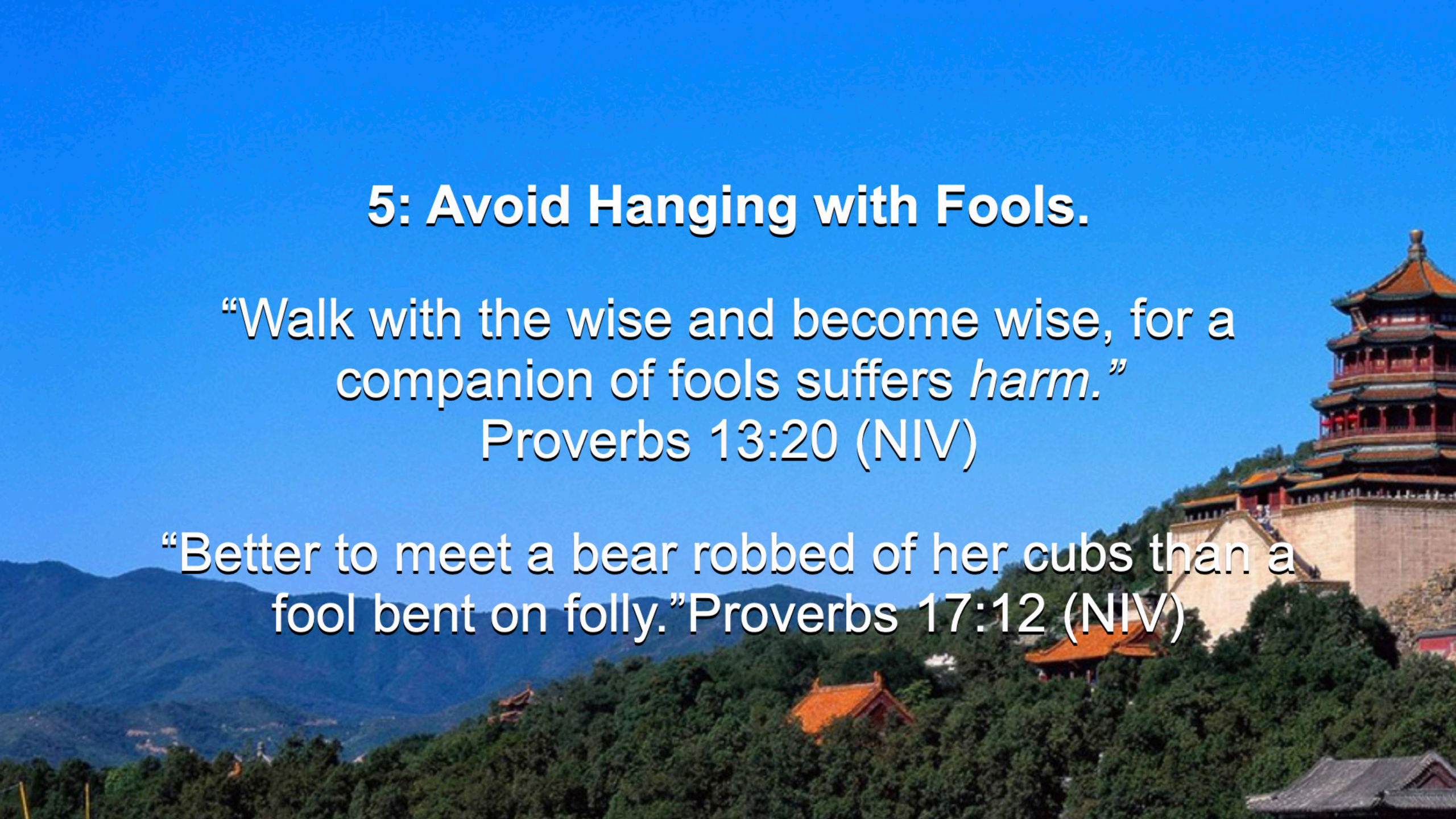


## 5: Avoid Hanging with Fools.

“Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers *harm*.”

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)

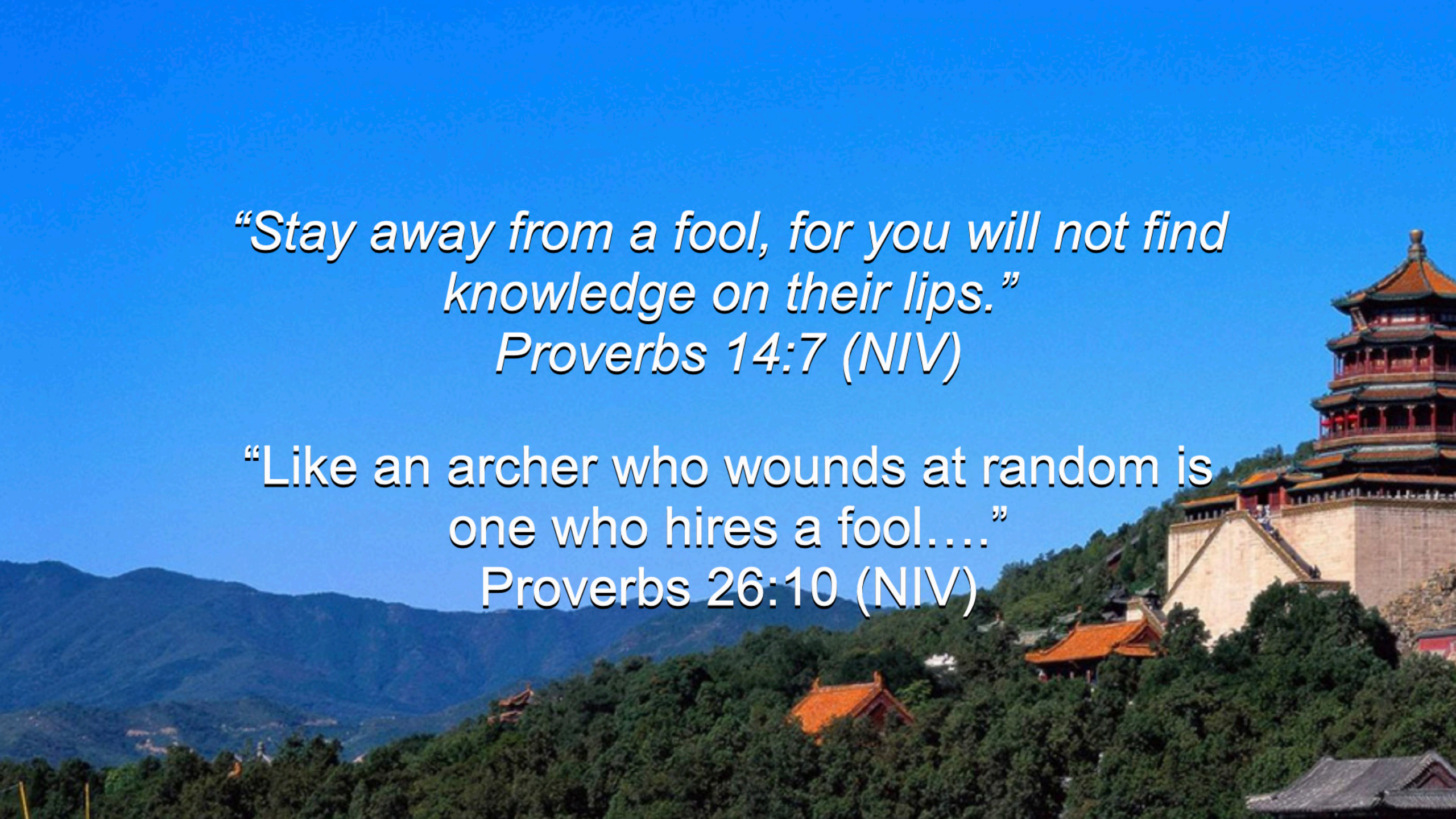
“Better to meet a bear robbed of her cubs than a fool bent on folly.” Proverbs 17:12 (NIV)





*“Stay away from a fool, for you will not find  
knowledge on their lips.”  
Proverbs 14:7 (NIV)*

“Like an archer who wounds at random is  
one who hires a fool....”  
Proverbs 26:10 (NIV)





*“Do not be misled:  
“Bad company corrupts good character.”  
I Corinthians 15:33 (NIV)*







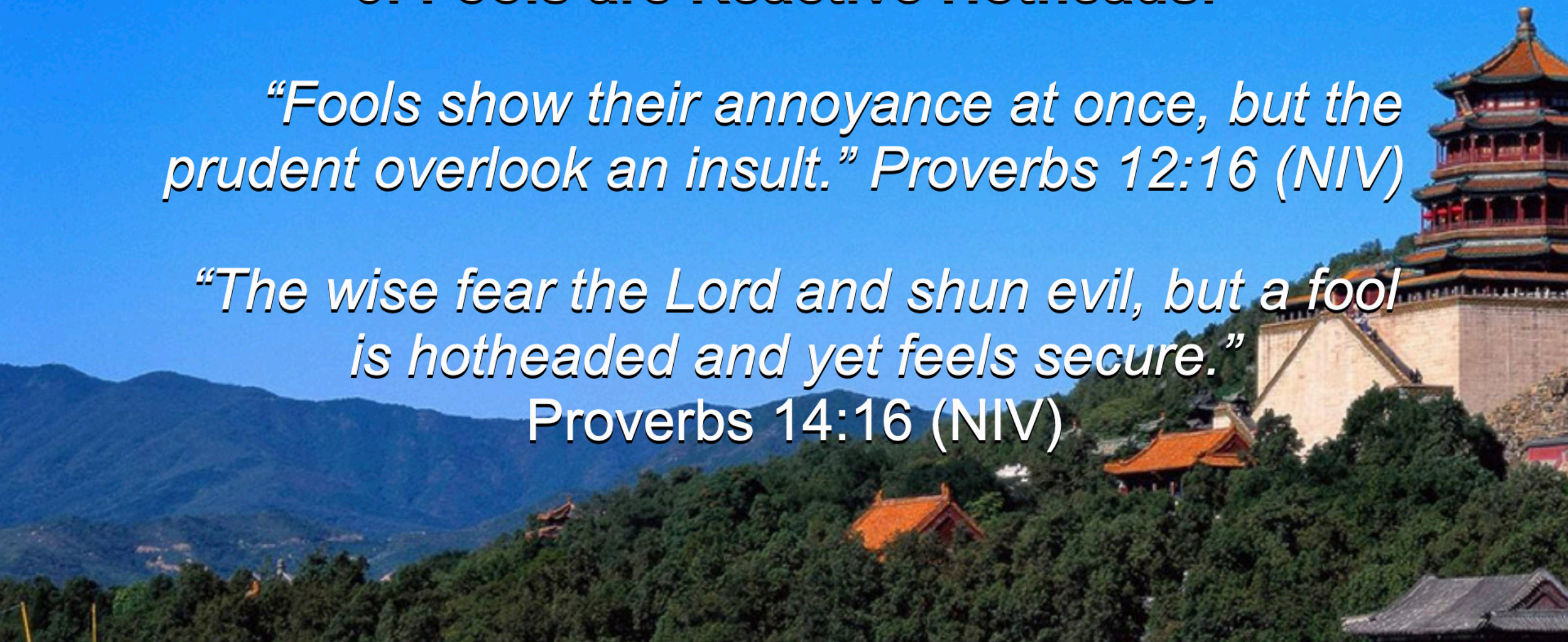
*“If you sleep with the dogs, expect flees.”* Moms Everywhere



## **6: Fools are Reactive Hotheads.**

*“Fools show their annoyance at once, but the prudent overlook an insult.” Proverbs 12:16 (NIV)*

*“The wise fear the Lord and shun evil, but a fool is hotheaded and yet feels secure.”  
Proverbs 14:16 (NIV)*





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Proverbs 14:16 (NIV)*





*“A quick-tempered person does foolish things, and the one who devises evil schemes is hated.”*

*Proverbs 14:17 (NIV)*

*“Do not speak to fools, for they will scorn your prudent words.” Proverbs 23:9*

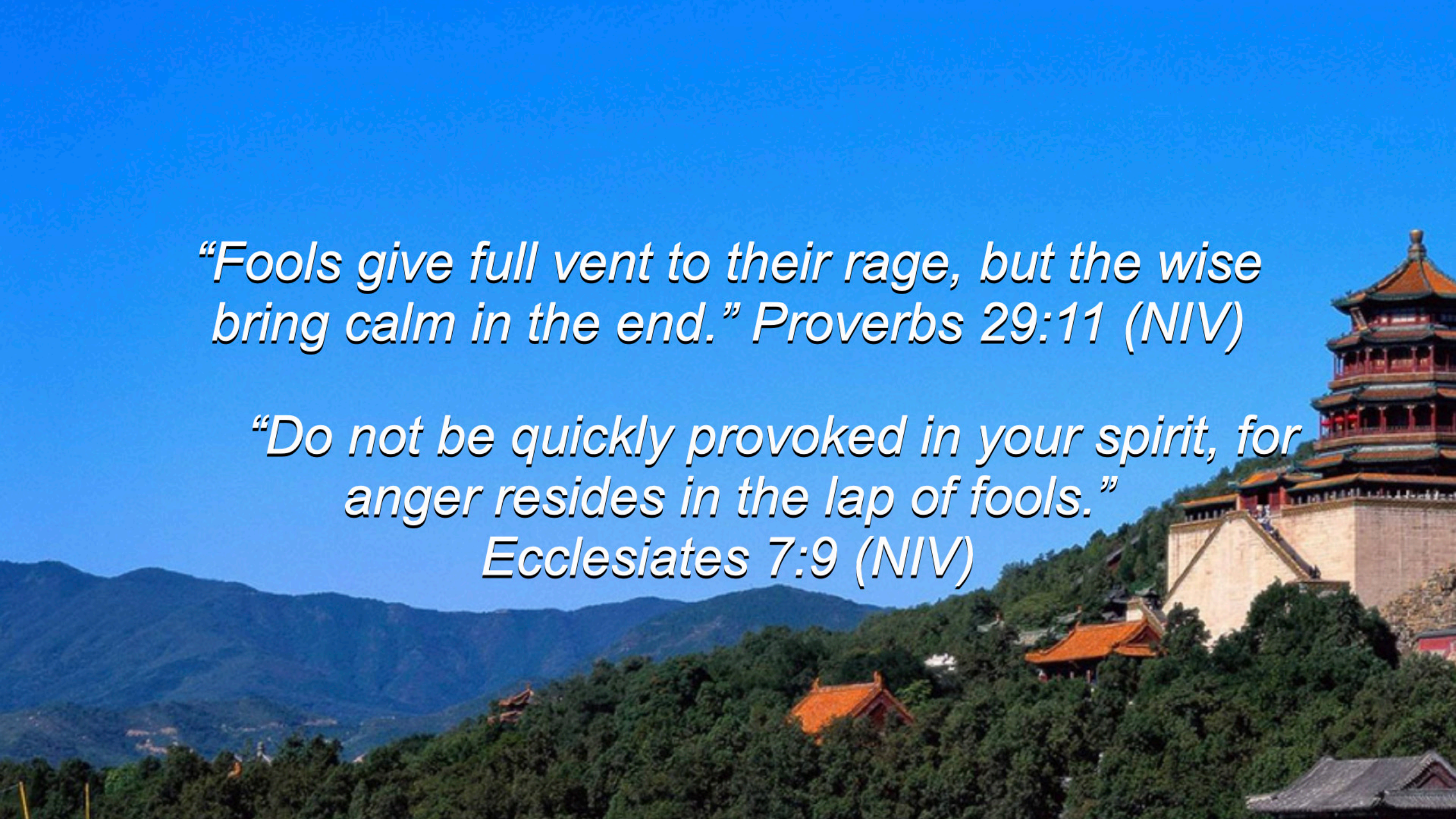
*“... the fool rages and scoffs, and there is no peace.” Proverbs 29:9 (NIV)*





*“Fools give full vent to their rage, but the wise bring calm in the end.” Proverbs 29:11 (NIV)*

*“Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools.”  
Ecclesiastes 7:9 (NIV)*

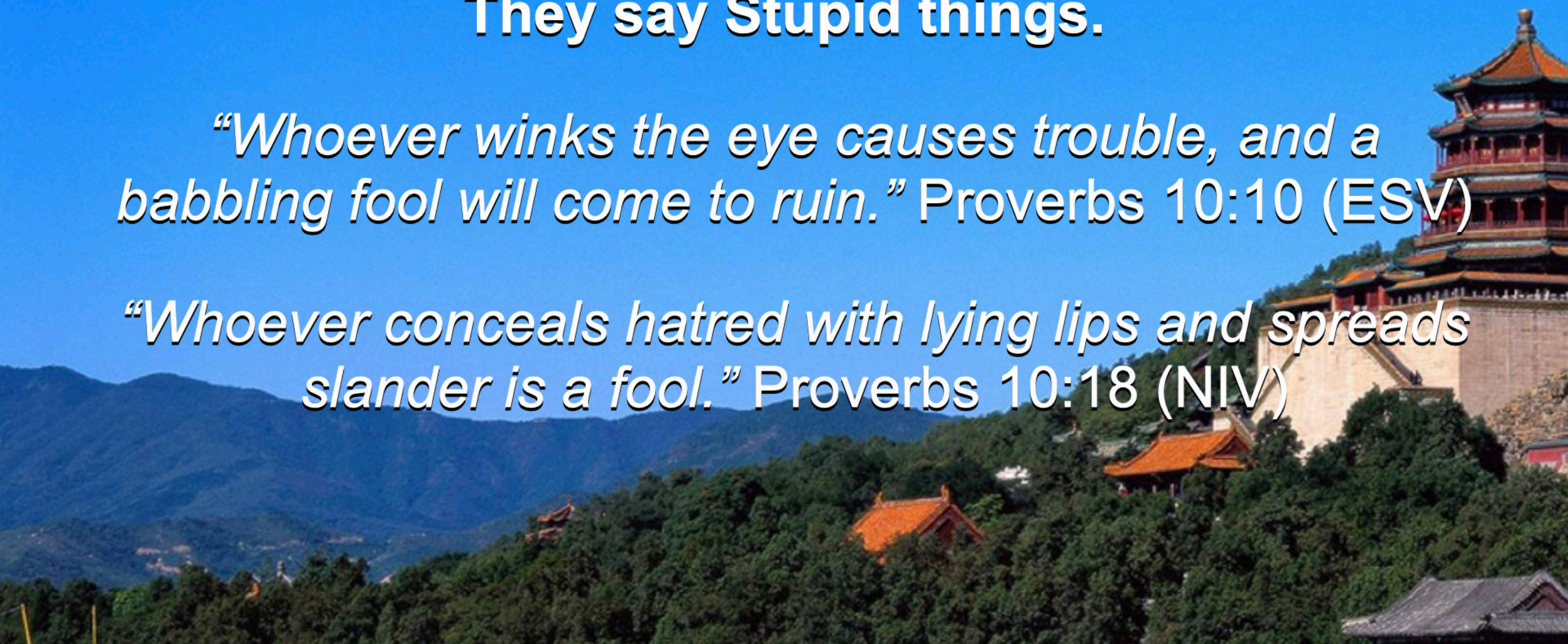




**7: Fools Trouble Themselves because  
They say Stupid things.**

*“Whoever winks the eye causes trouble, and a babbling fool will come to ruin.” Proverbs 10:10 (ESV)*

*“Whoever conceals hatred with lying lips and spreads slander is a fool.” Proverbs 10:18 (NIV)*

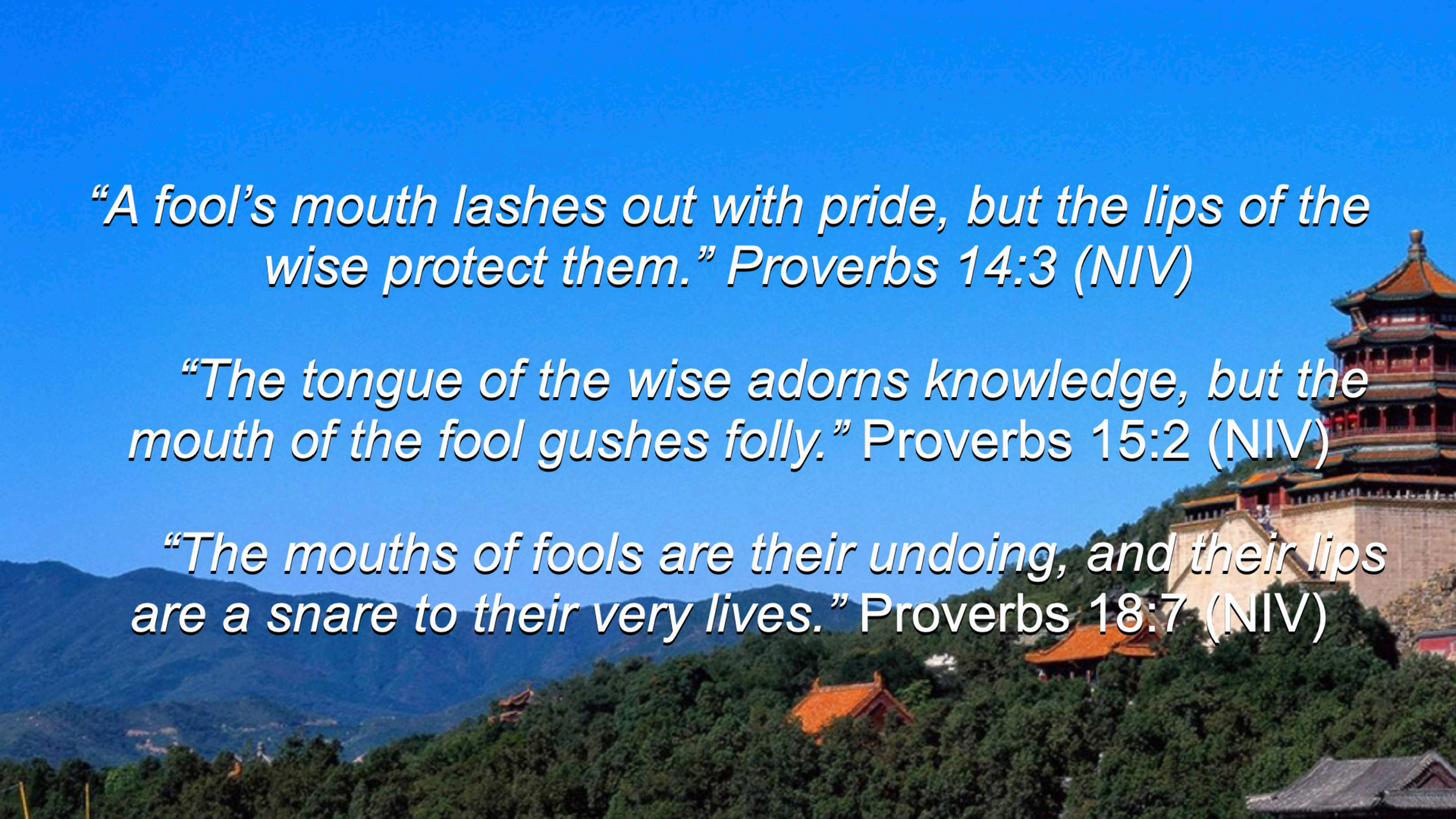




*“A fool’s mouth lashes out with pride, but the lips of the wise protect them.” Proverbs 14:3 (NIV)*

*“The tongue of the wise adorns knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly.” Proverbs 15:2 (NIV)*

*“The mouths of fools are their undoing, and their lips are a snare to their very lives.” Proverbs 18:7 (NIV)*

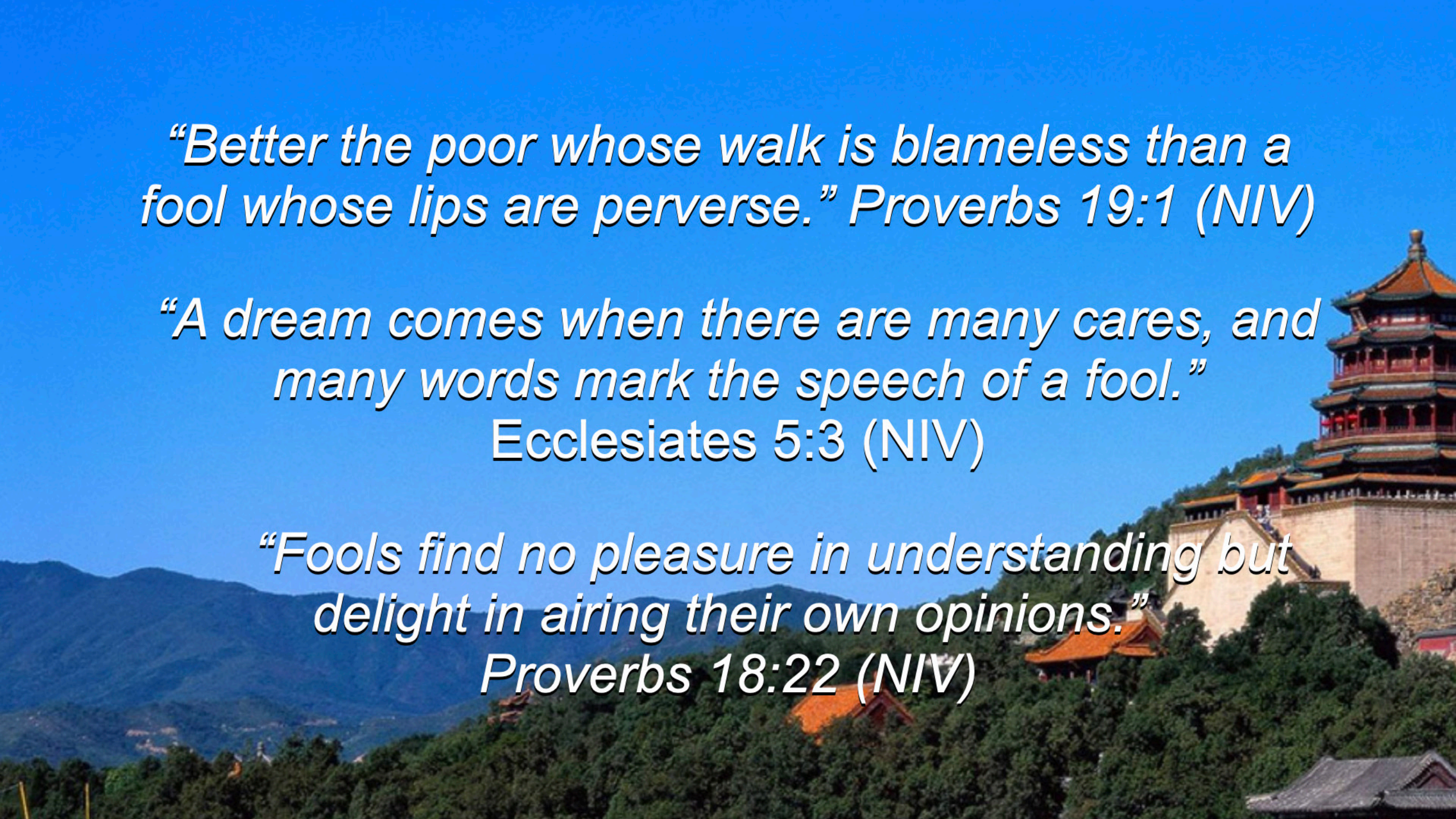




*“Better the poor whose walk is blameless than a fool whose lips are perverse.” Proverbs 19:1 (NIV)*

*“A dream comes when there are many cares, and many words mark the speech of a fool.”  
Ecclesiastes 5:3 (NIV)*

*“Fools find no pleasure in understanding but delight in airing their own opinions.”  
Proverbs 18:22 (NIV)*



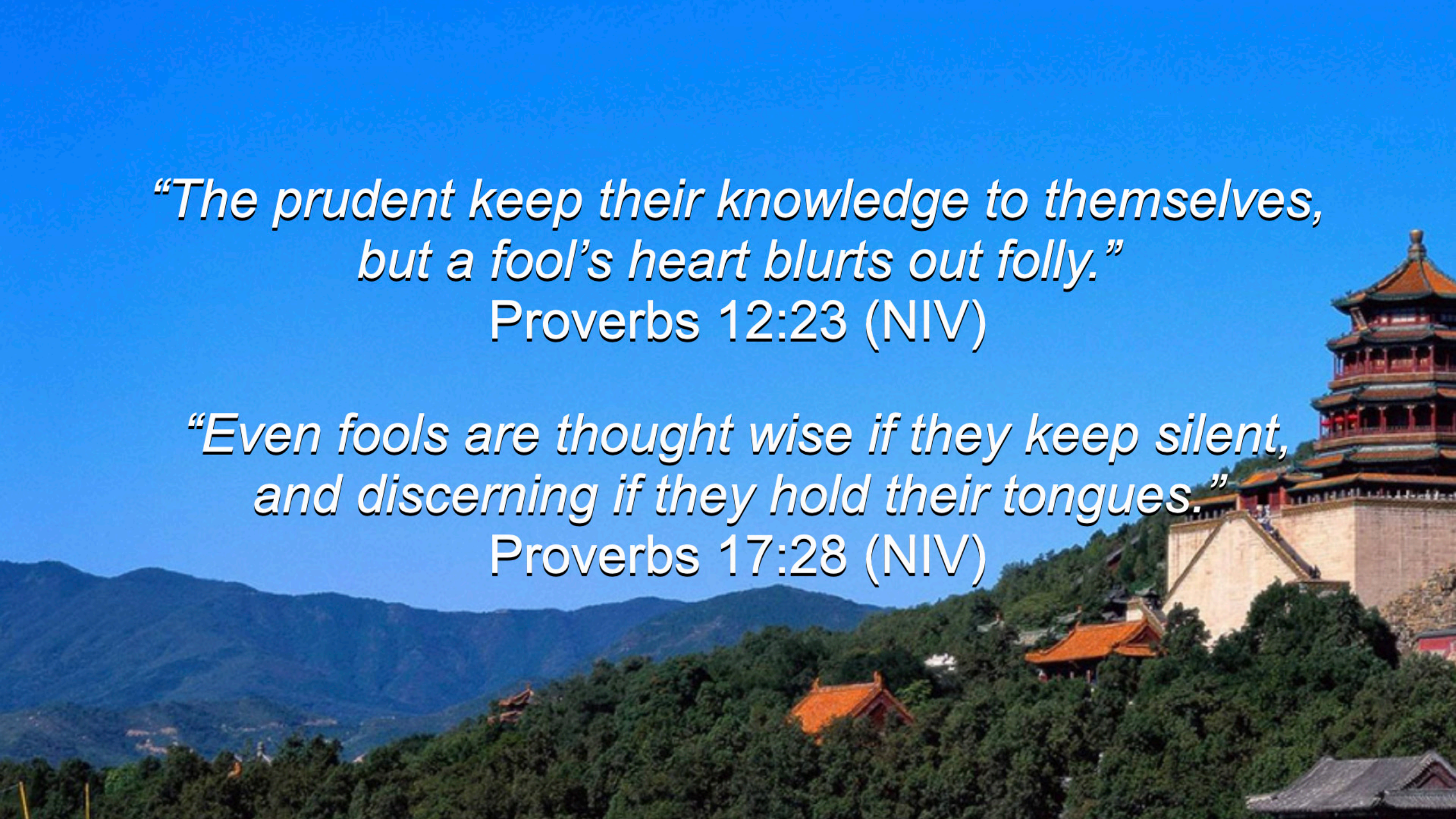


*“The prudent keep their knowledge to themselves,  
but a fool’s heart blurts out folly.”*

Proverbs 12:23 (NIV)

*“Even fools are thought wise if they keep silent,  
and discerning if they hold their tongues.”*

Proverbs 17:28 (NIV)

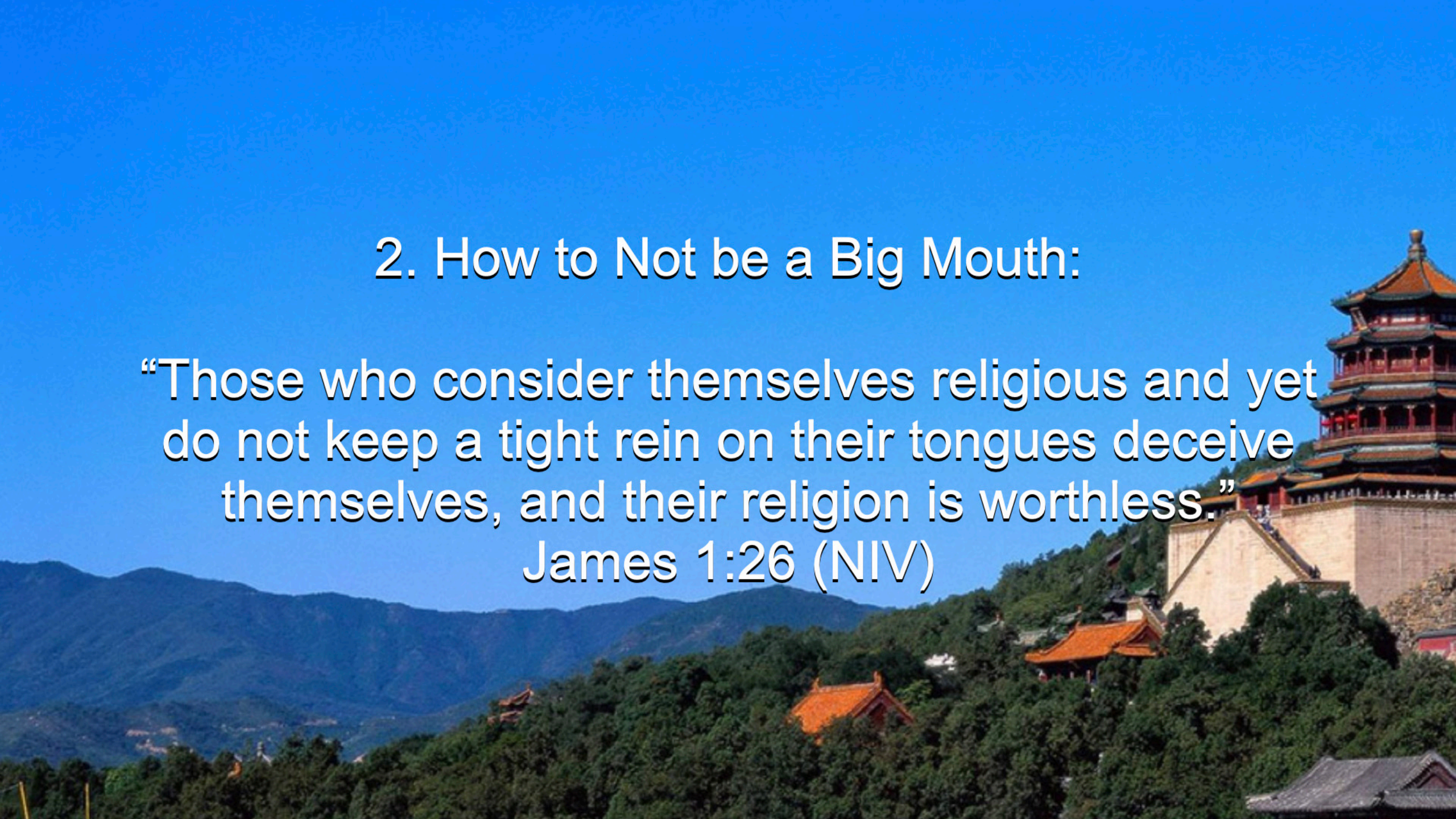




## 2. How to Not be a Big Mouth:

“Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.”

James 1:26 (NIV)



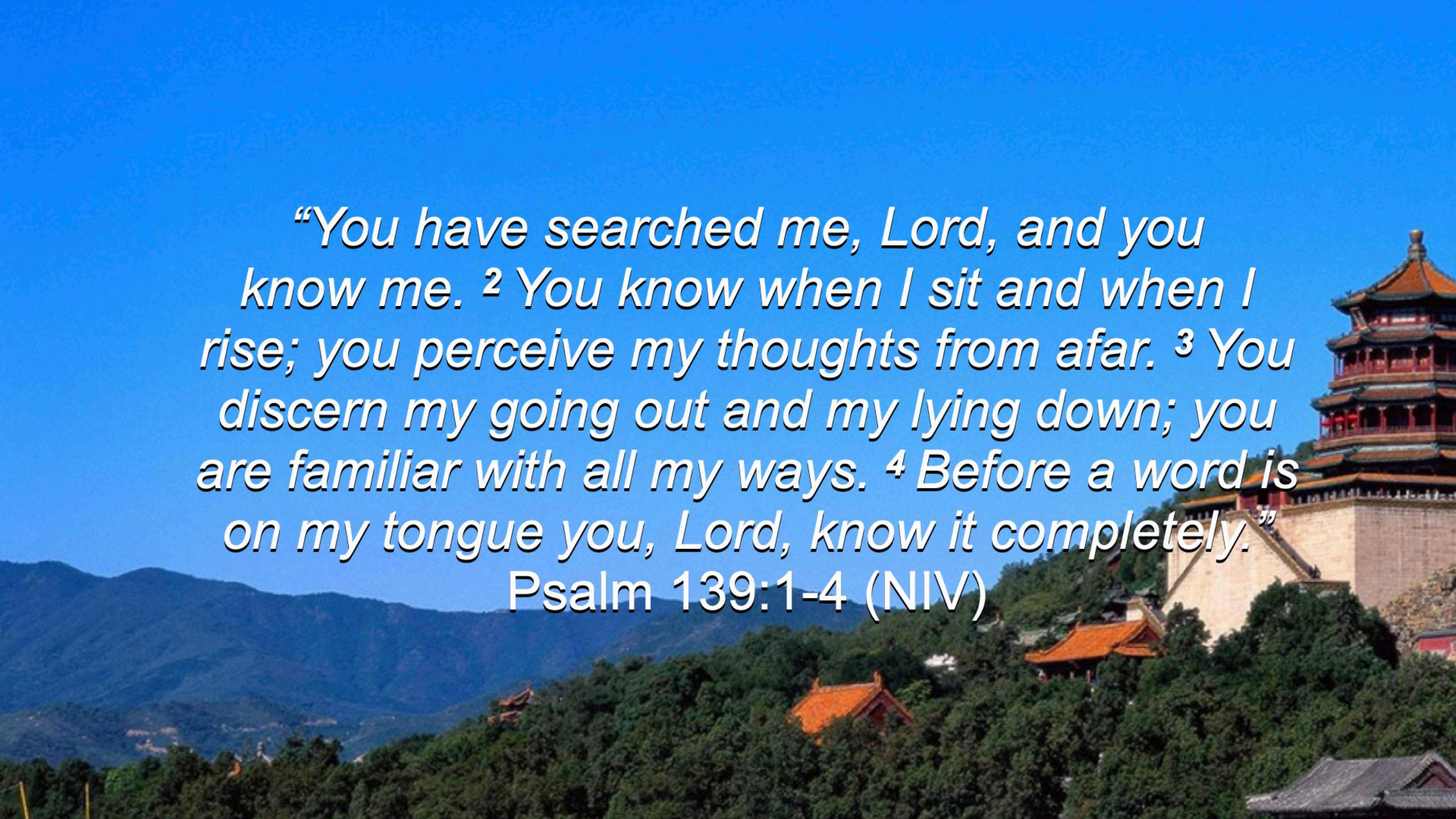


A) Ask the Holy Spirit for Help.

- God Knows What You will Say in Advance.





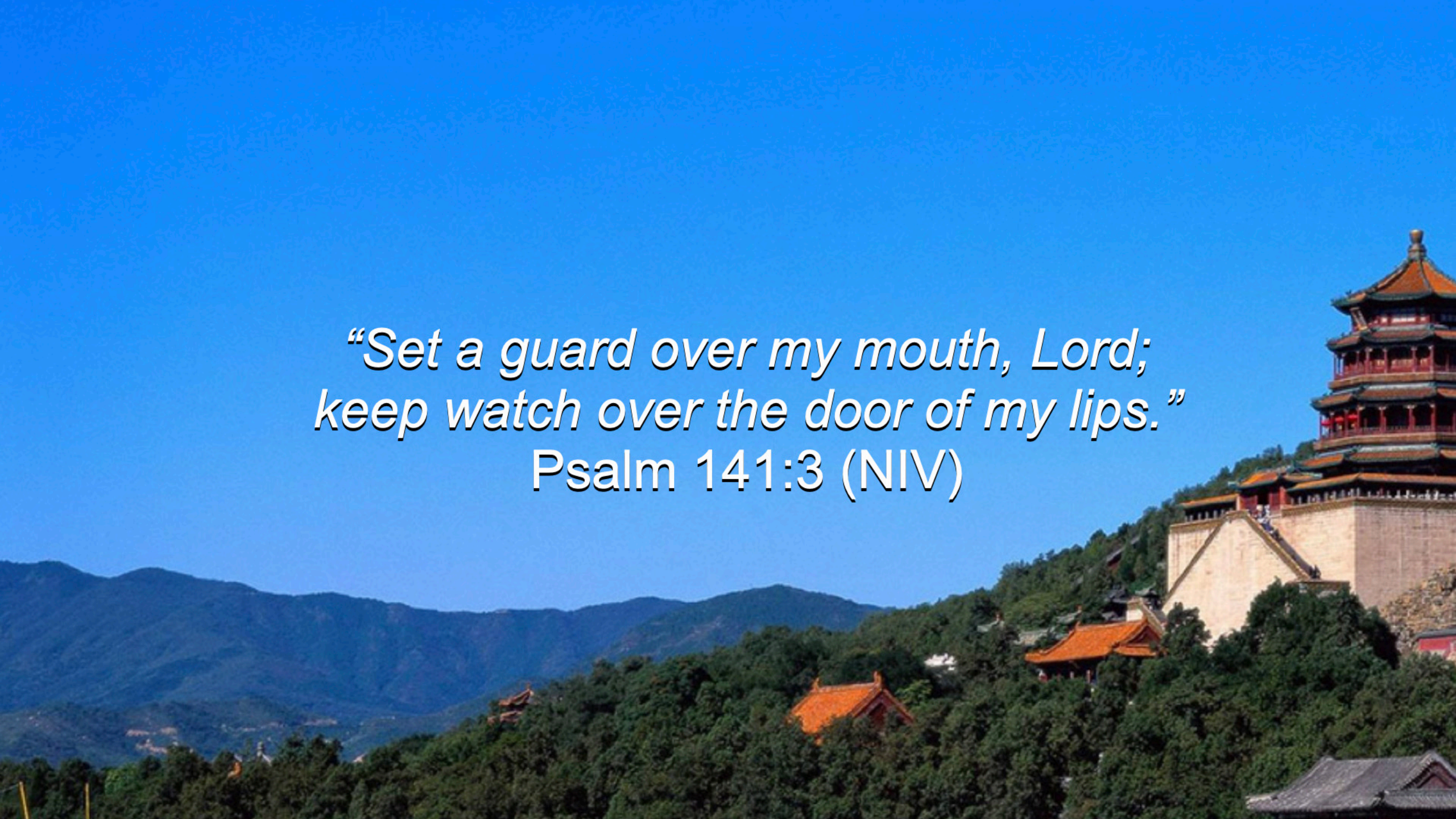


*“You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup> You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. <sup>4</sup> Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.”*

**Psalm 139:1-4 (NIV)**



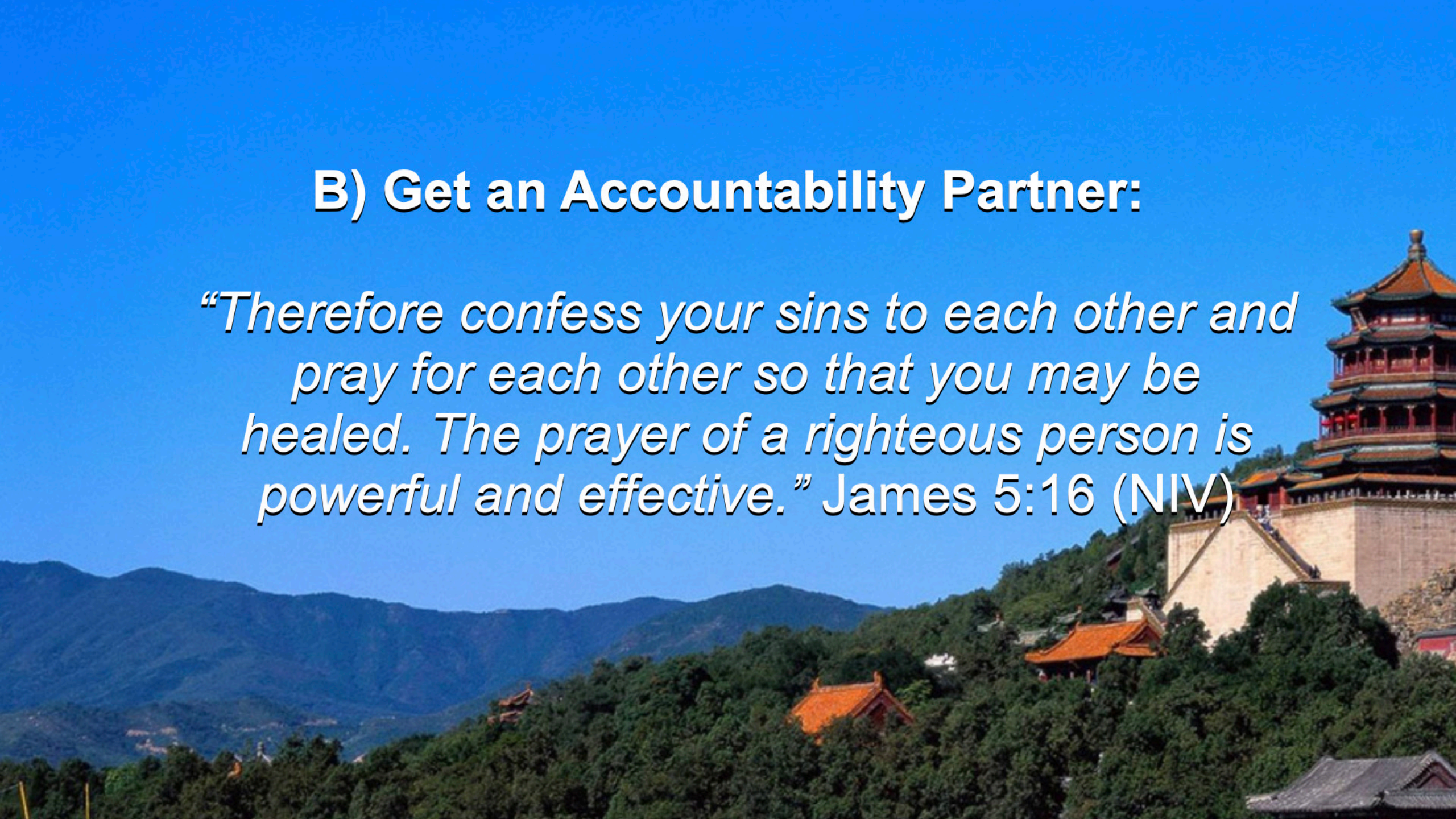
*“Set a guard over my mouth, Lord;  
keep watch over the door of my lips.”*  
Psalm 141:3 (NIV)





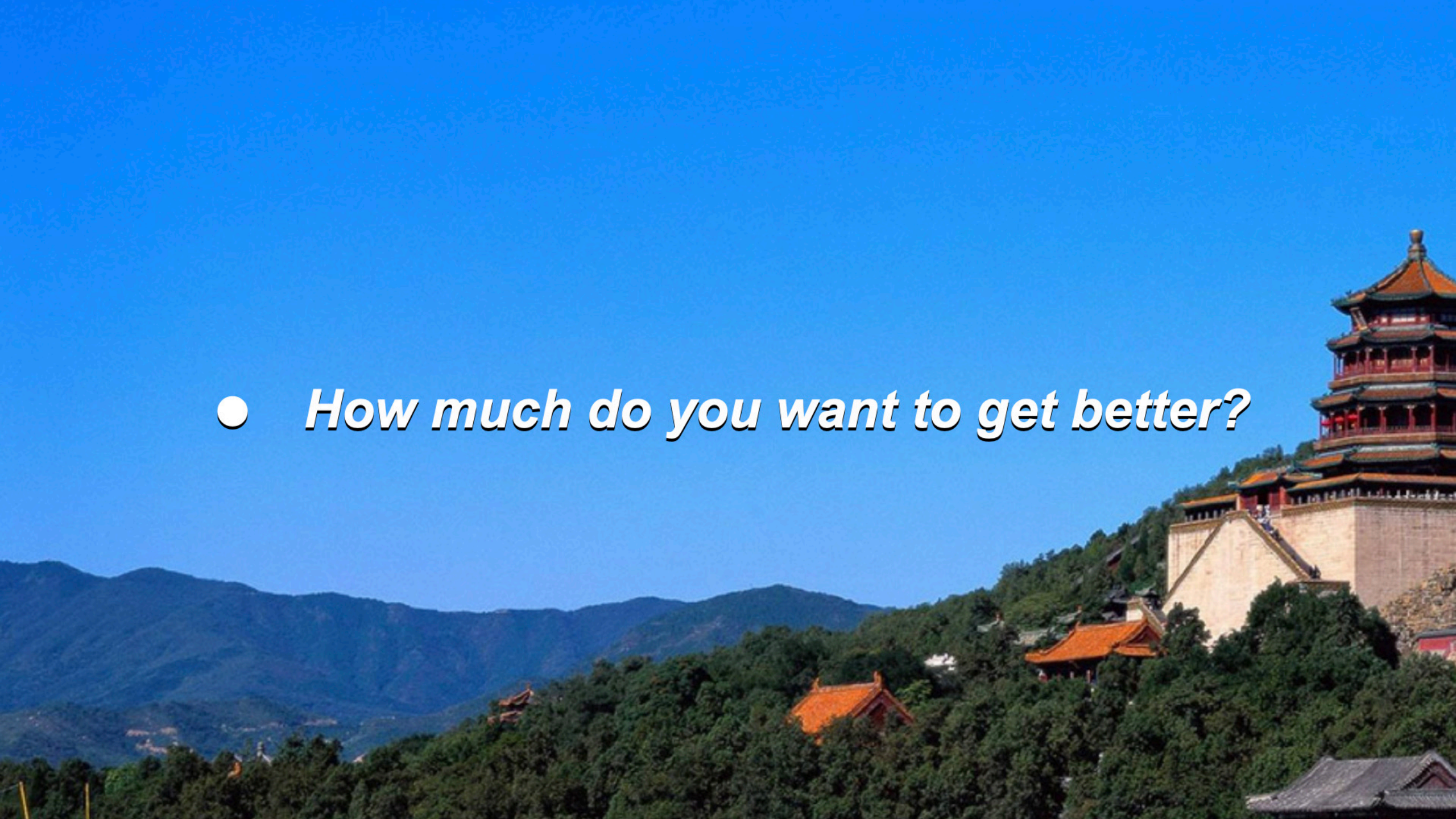
## **B) Get an Accountability Partner:**

*“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.” James 5:16 (NIV)*





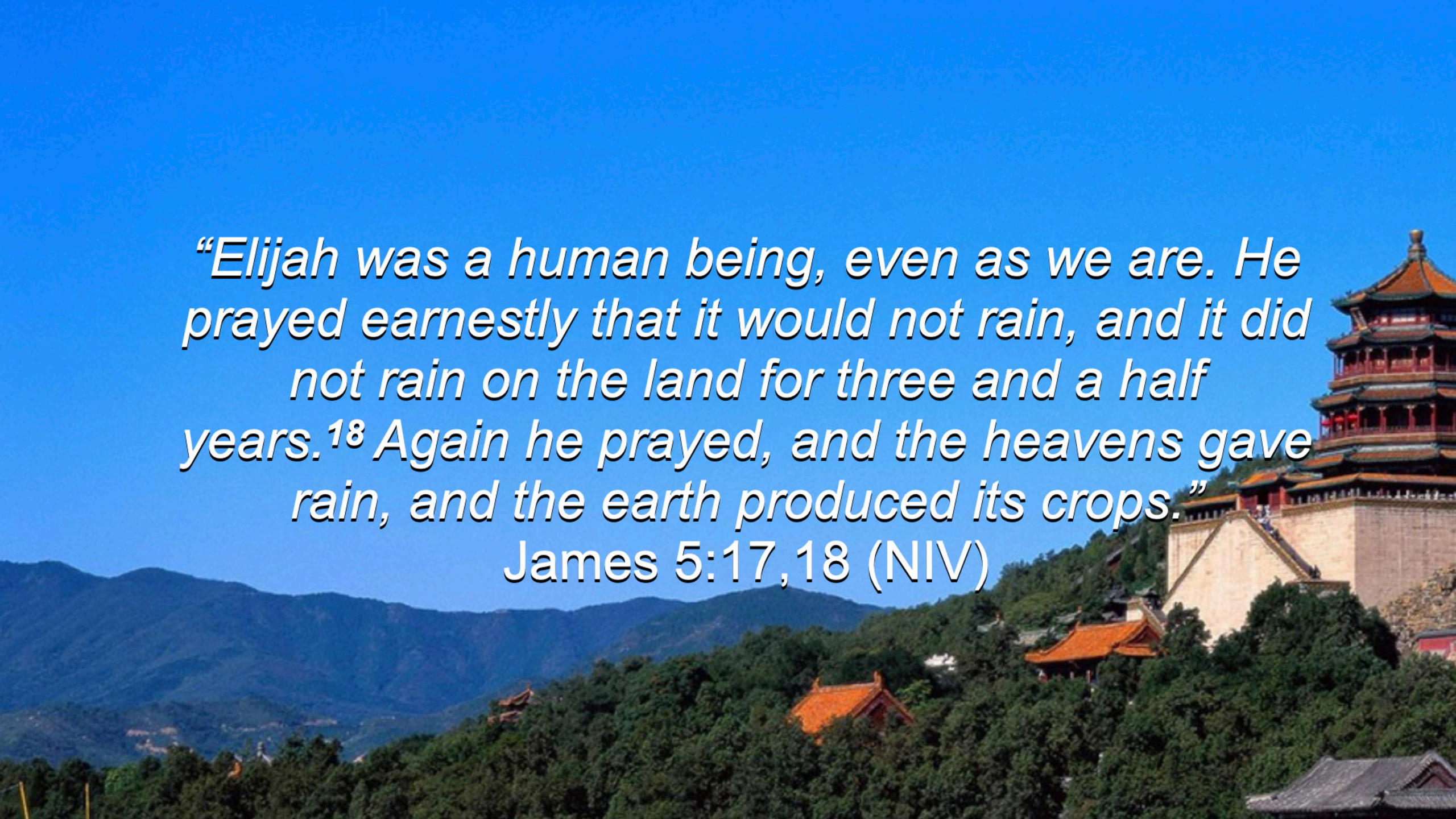
- *How much do you want to get better?*



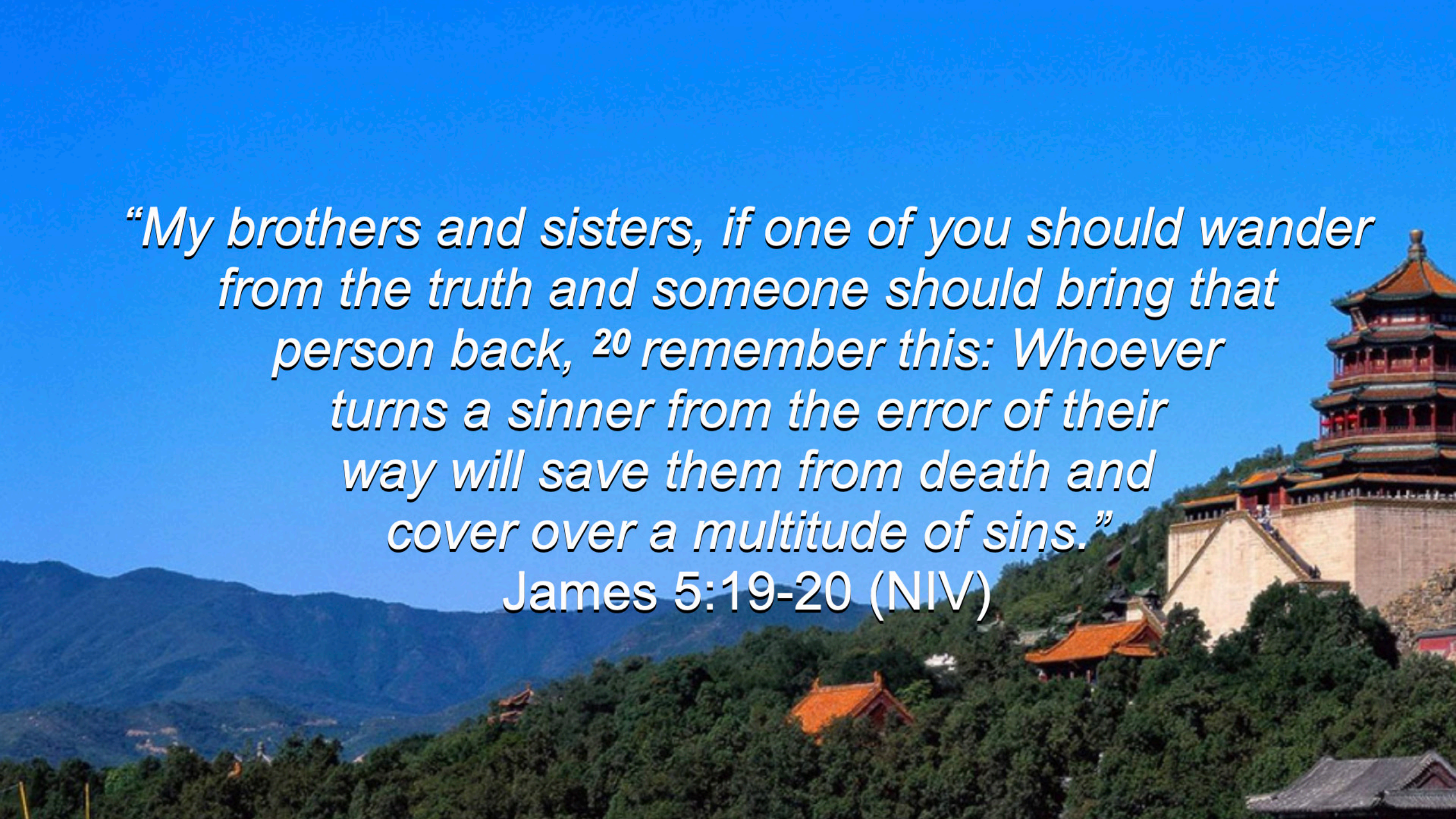


*“Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.<sup>18</sup> Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.”*

*James 5:17,18 (NIV)*







*“My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, <sup>20</sup> remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins.”*

James 5:19-20 (NIV)



