

THE LETTER OF

JAMES



# Golden Rule

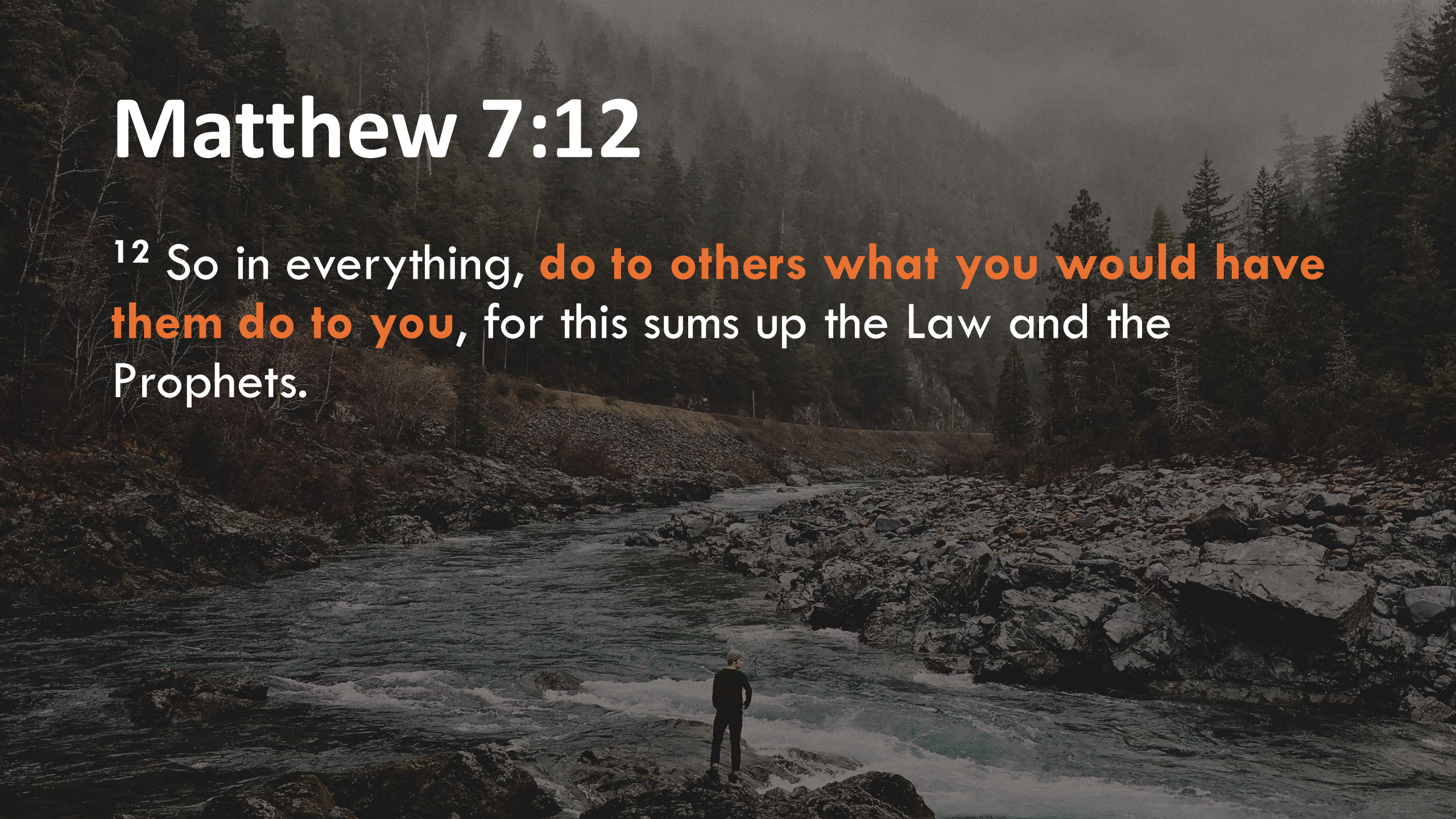
A person in dark clothing stands on a rocky outcrop in the foreground, looking across a wide, rocky river. The river flows through a valley with steep, forested hillsides. The trees are mostly evergreens, and the overall atmosphere is misty and overcast. The text 'Golden Rule' is overlaid in the center of the image in a bright yellow font.

A person stands on a rocky outcrop in the foreground, looking across a turbulent river. The river flows through a valley with steep, forested hillsides. The water is white with foam, suggesting rapids or a narrow channel. The background is filled with dense evergreen trees, and the overall atmosphere is misty and overcast. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

**Treat others the way you want to  
be treated.**

# Matthew 7:12

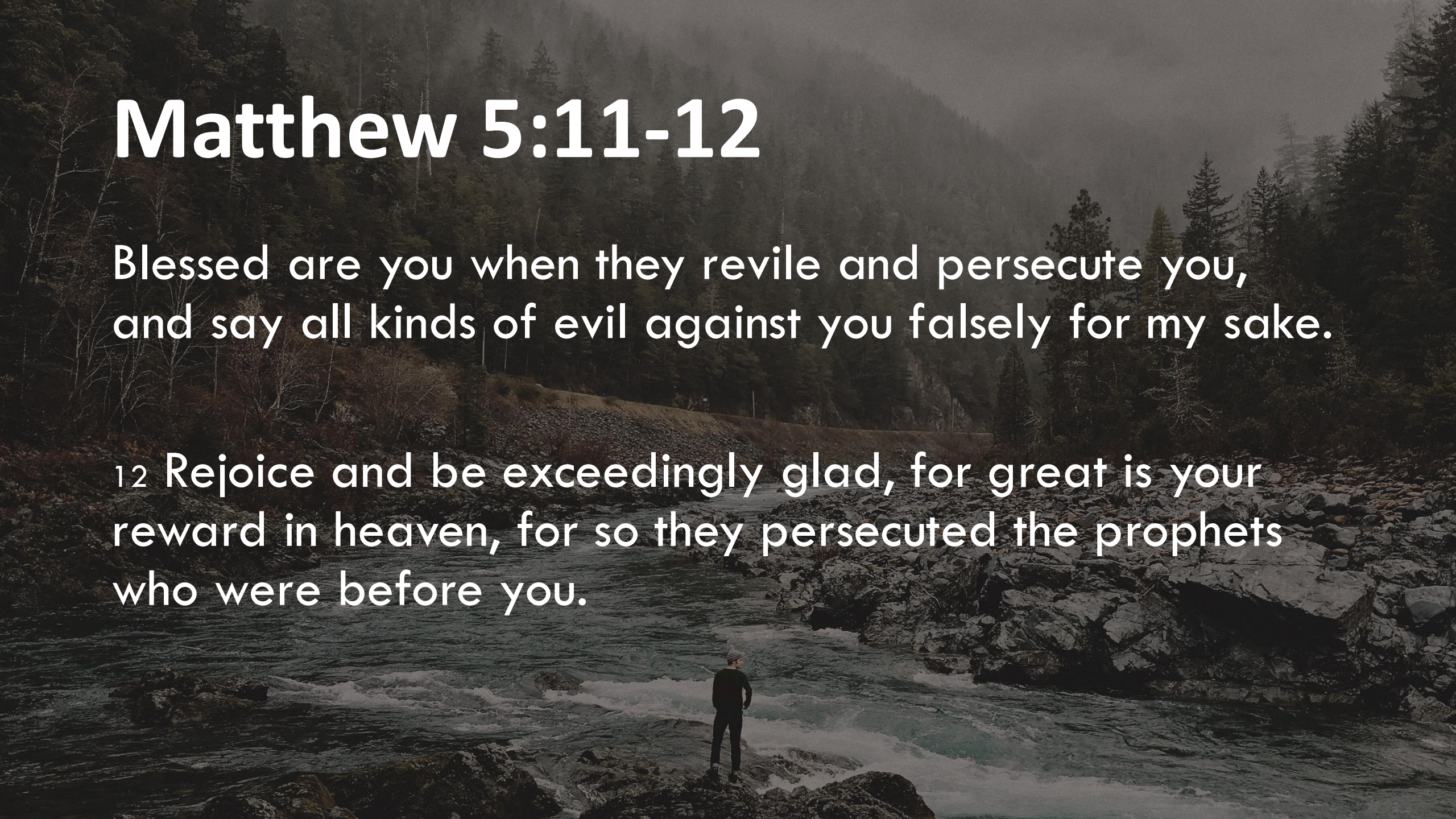
<sup>12</sup> So in everything, **do to others what you would have them do to you**, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.



# Matthew 5:11-12

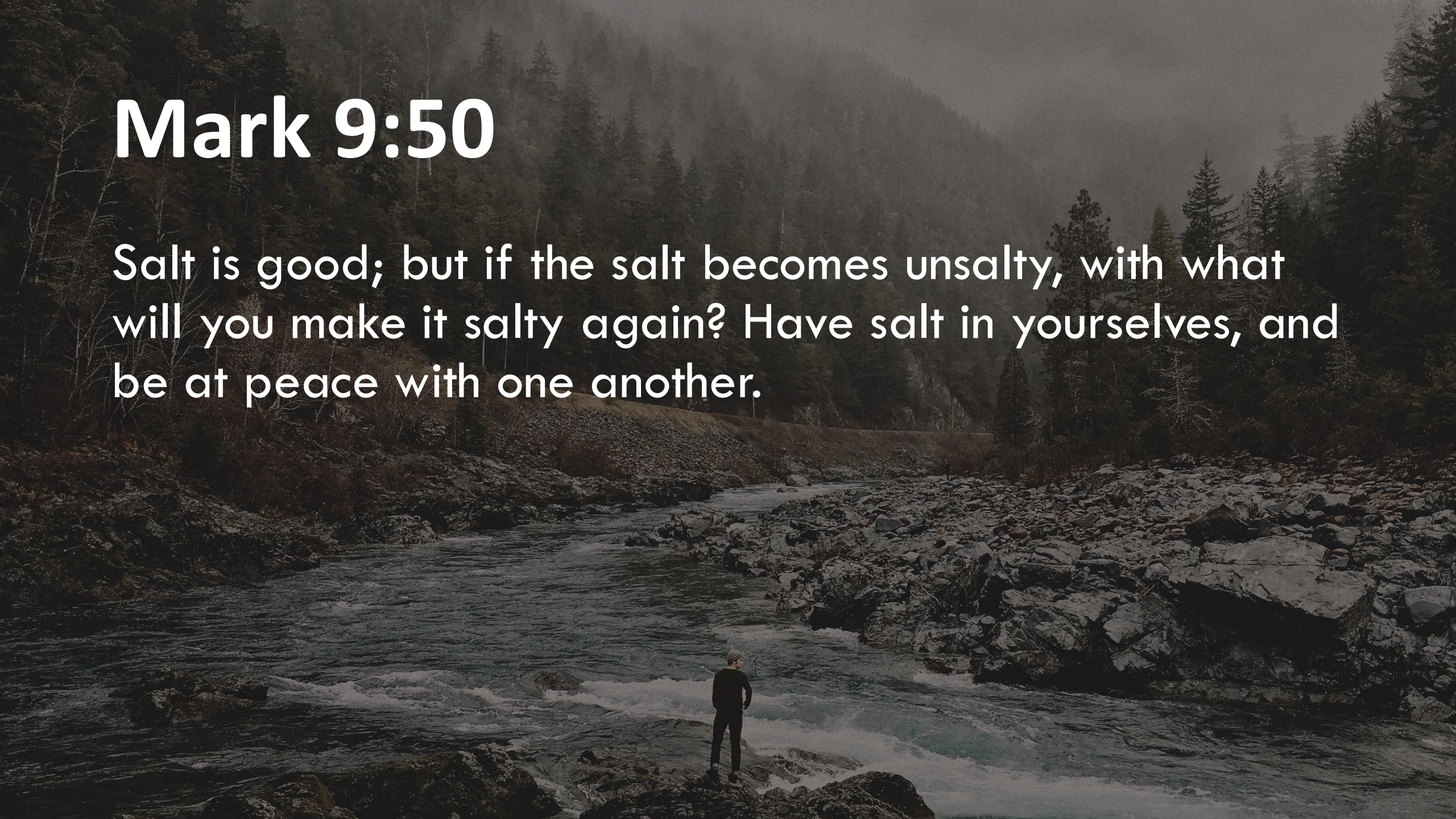
Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you,  
and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake.

<sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your  
reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets  
who were before you.



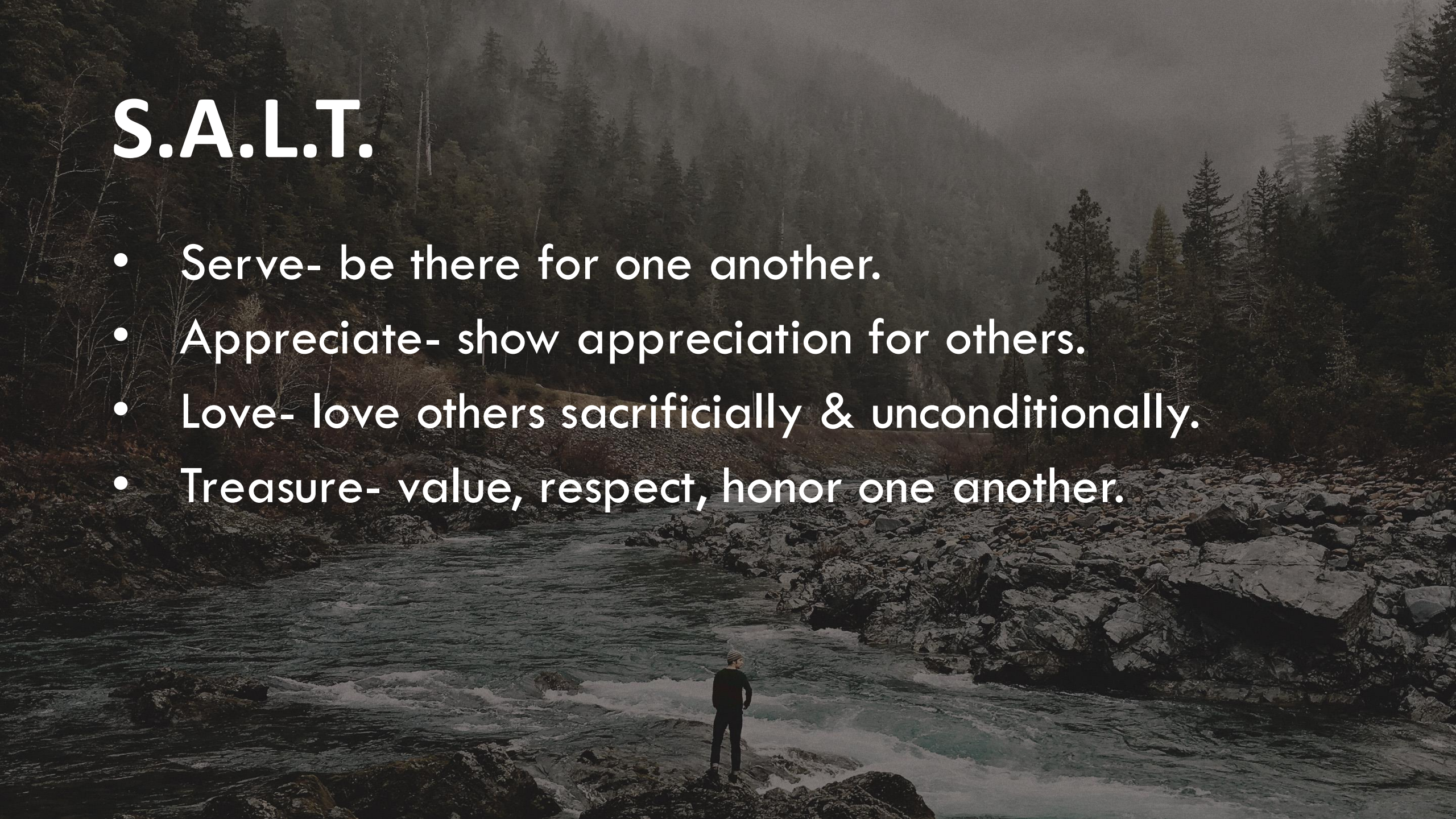
# Mark 9:50

Salt is good; but if the salt becomes unsalty, with what will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.



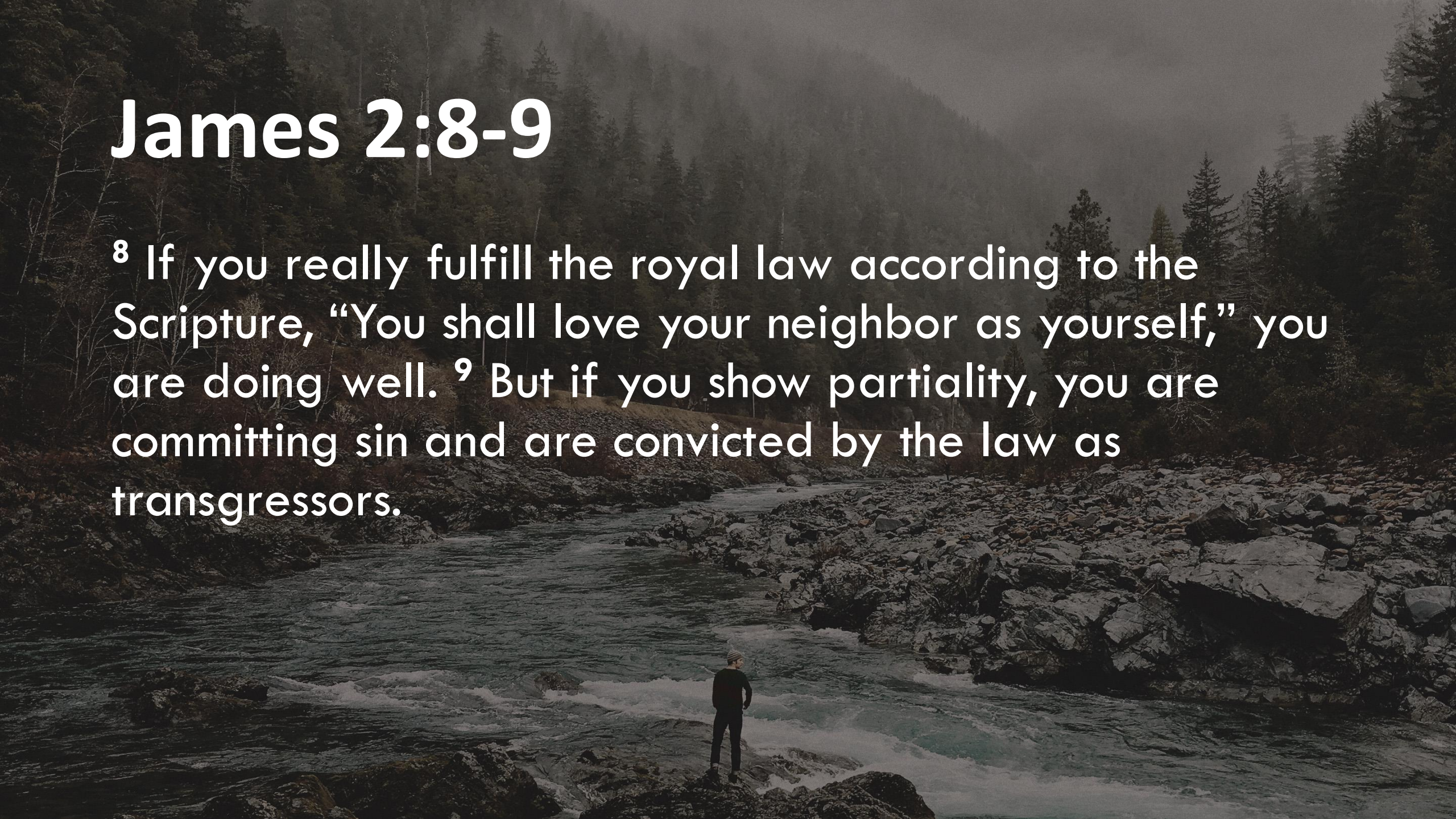
# S.A.L.T.

- Serve- be there for one another.
- Appreciate- show appreciation for others.
- Love- love others sacrificially & unconditionally.
- Treasure- value, respect, honor one another.



# James 2:8-9

<sup>8</sup> If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. <sup>9</sup> But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.

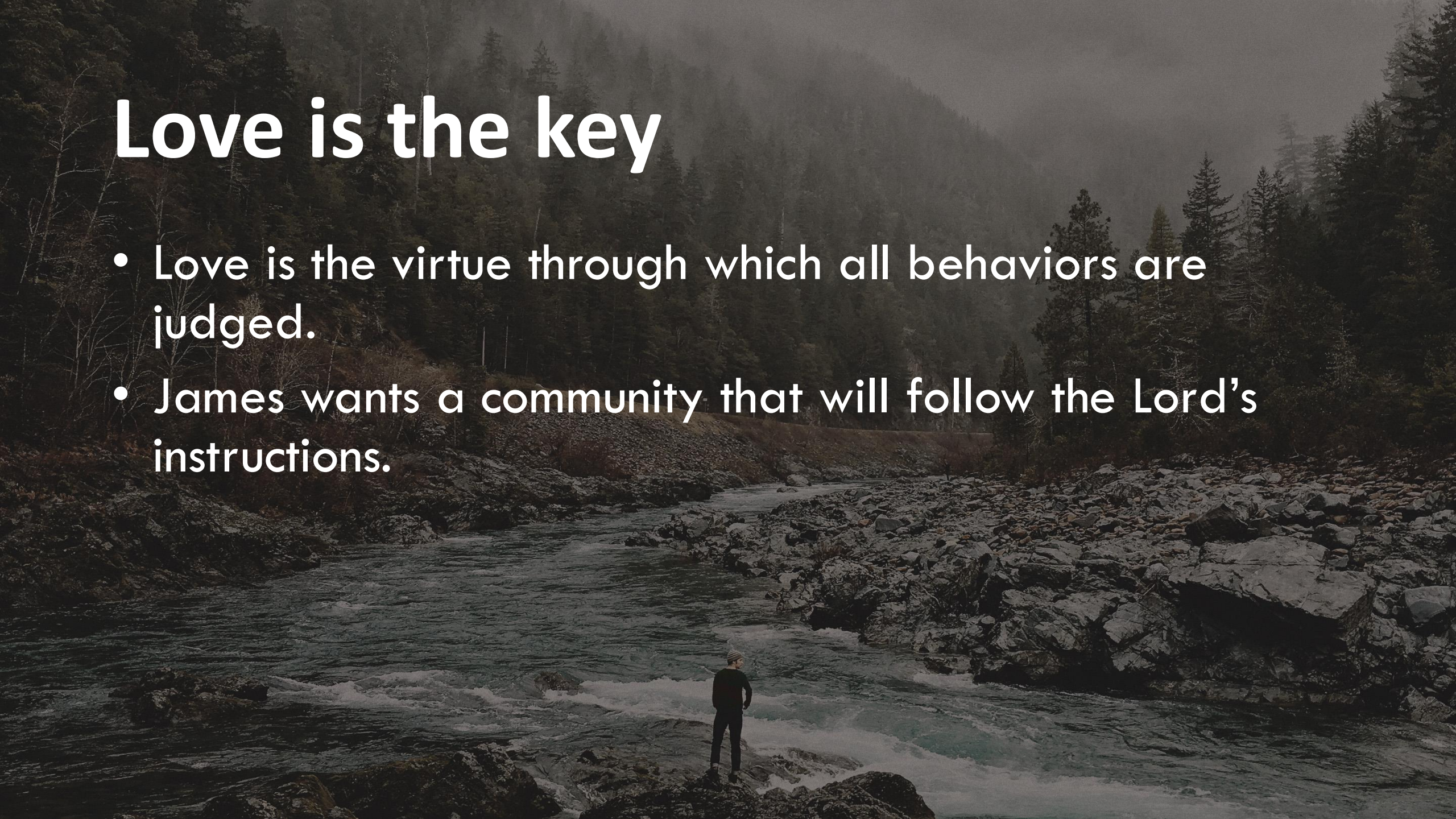


# The Royal Law

A person in dark clothing stands on a rocky outcrop in the foreground, looking across a turbulent river. The river flows through a valley with steep, forested hillsides. The water is white with foam as it moves over rocks. The background is filled with dense evergreen trees under a grey, overcast sky. The overall mood is somber and majestic.

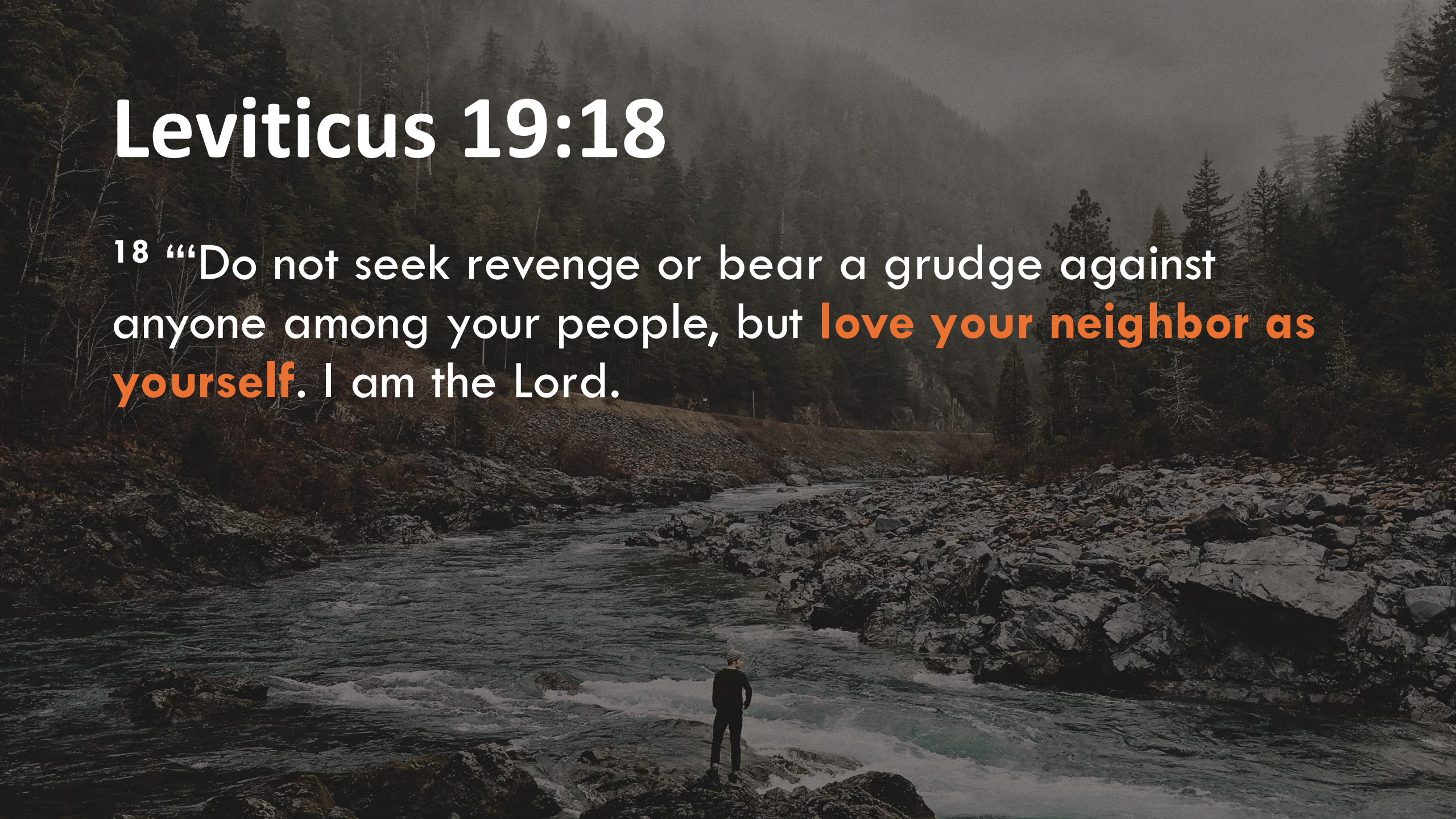
# Love is the key

- Love is the virtue through which all behaviors are judged.
- James wants a community that will follow the Lord's instructions.



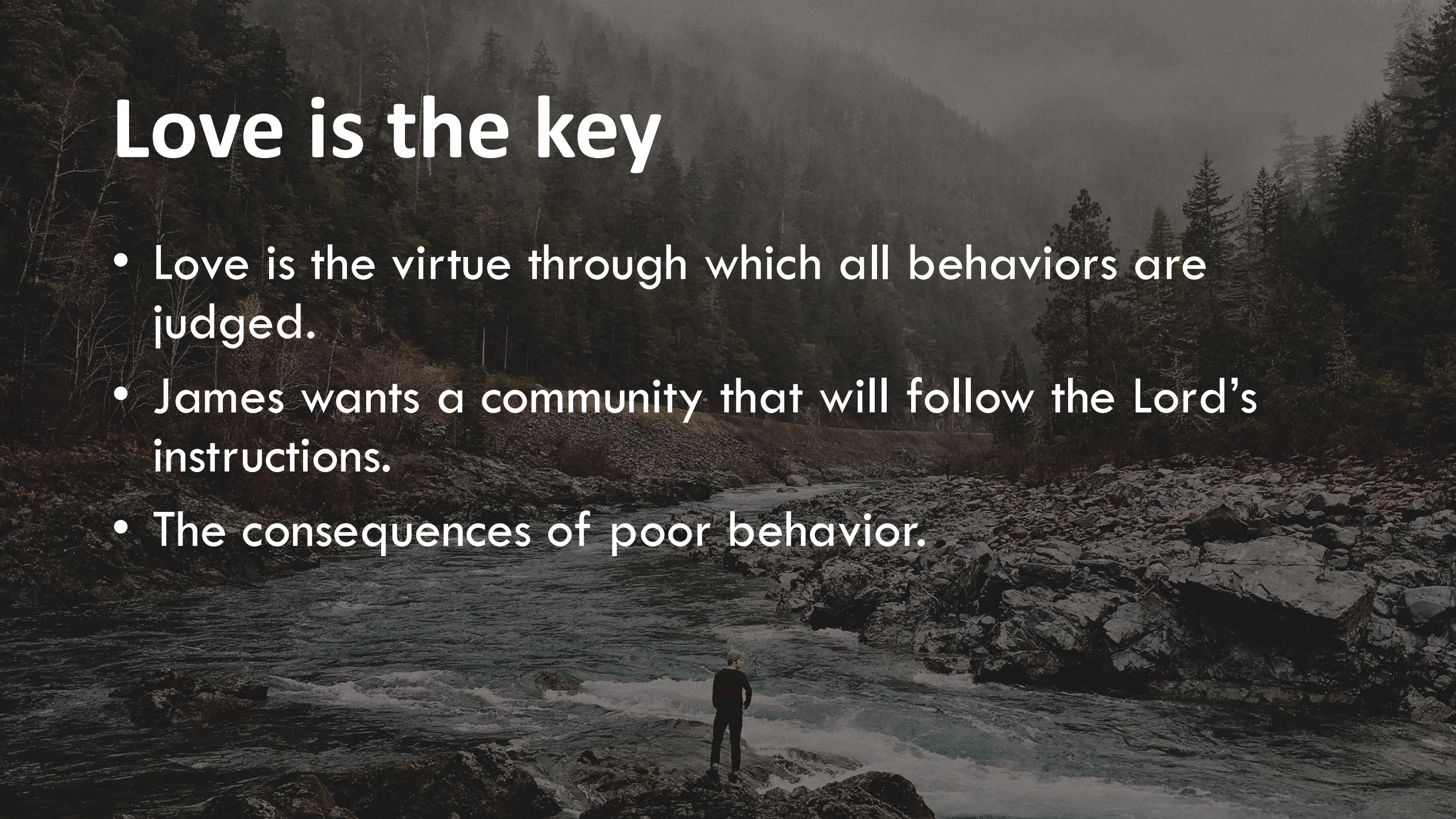
# Leviticus 19:18

18 “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but **love your neighbor as yourself**. I am the Lord.



# Love is the key

- Love is the virtue through which all behaviors are judged.
- James wants a community that will follow the Lord's instructions.
- The consequences of poor behavior.



A person in dark clothing stands on a rocky outcrop in the foreground, looking across a wide, turbulent river. The river flows through a valley with steep, forested hillsides. The water is white with foam, suggesting rapids. The background is filled with dense evergreen trees under a hazy sky. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

**If you love, you are doing what is  
right.**

**But if you are partial, you become  
transgressors.**

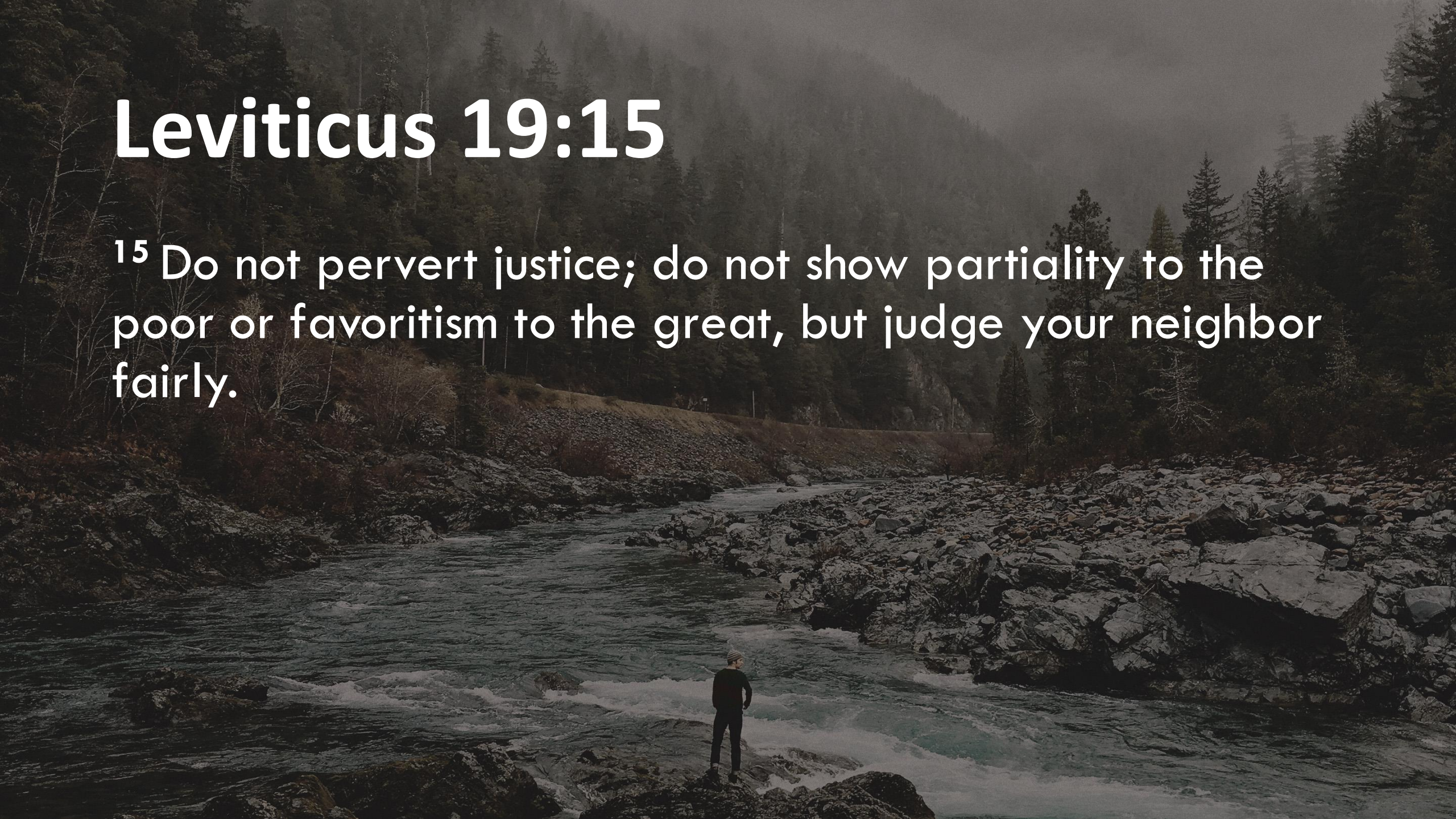
# Matthew 22:36-40

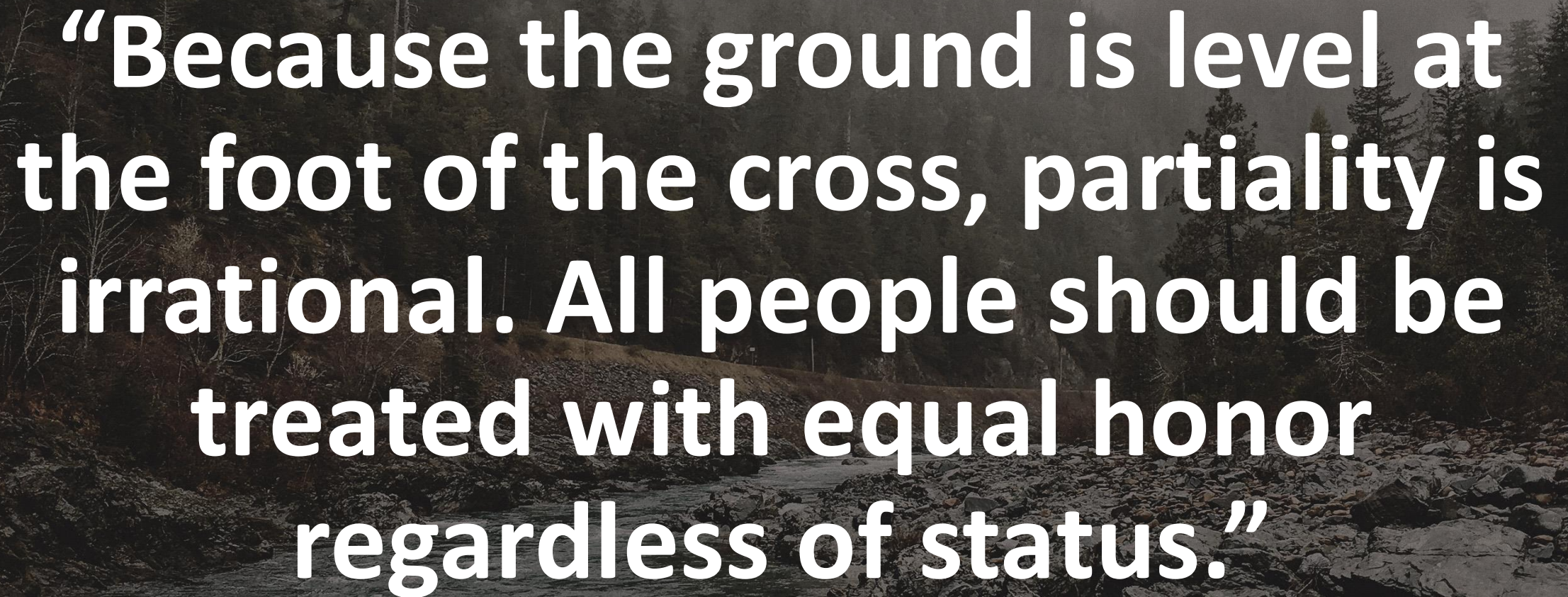
<sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” <sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”



# Leviticus 19:15

<sup>15</sup> Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly.



A person is standing on a rocky riverbank, looking out over a river with white water rapids. The background is a dense forest of evergreen trees under a hazy sky. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric.

**“Because the ground is level at the foot of the cross, partiality is irrational. All people should be treated with equal honor regardless of status.”**

**Kent Hughes**

# Matthew 5:17-18

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.”



# All or Nothing Principle

A person is standing on a rocky outcrop in the foreground, looking across a wide, turbulent river. The river is filled with white water rapids and is surrounded by a dense forest of evergreen trees. The background shows a misty, forested mountain range. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric.

# James 2:10-11

<sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. <sup>11</sup> For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.



# Matthew 5:27-28

<sup>27</sup> “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ <sup>28</sup> But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.”



# Exodus 20:3-17

<sup>3</sup> You shall have no other gods before Me.

<sup>4</sup> You shall not make for yourself an idol.

<sup>7</sup> You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

<sup>8</sup> Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

<sup>12</sup> Honor your father and your mother.



# Exodus 20:3-17

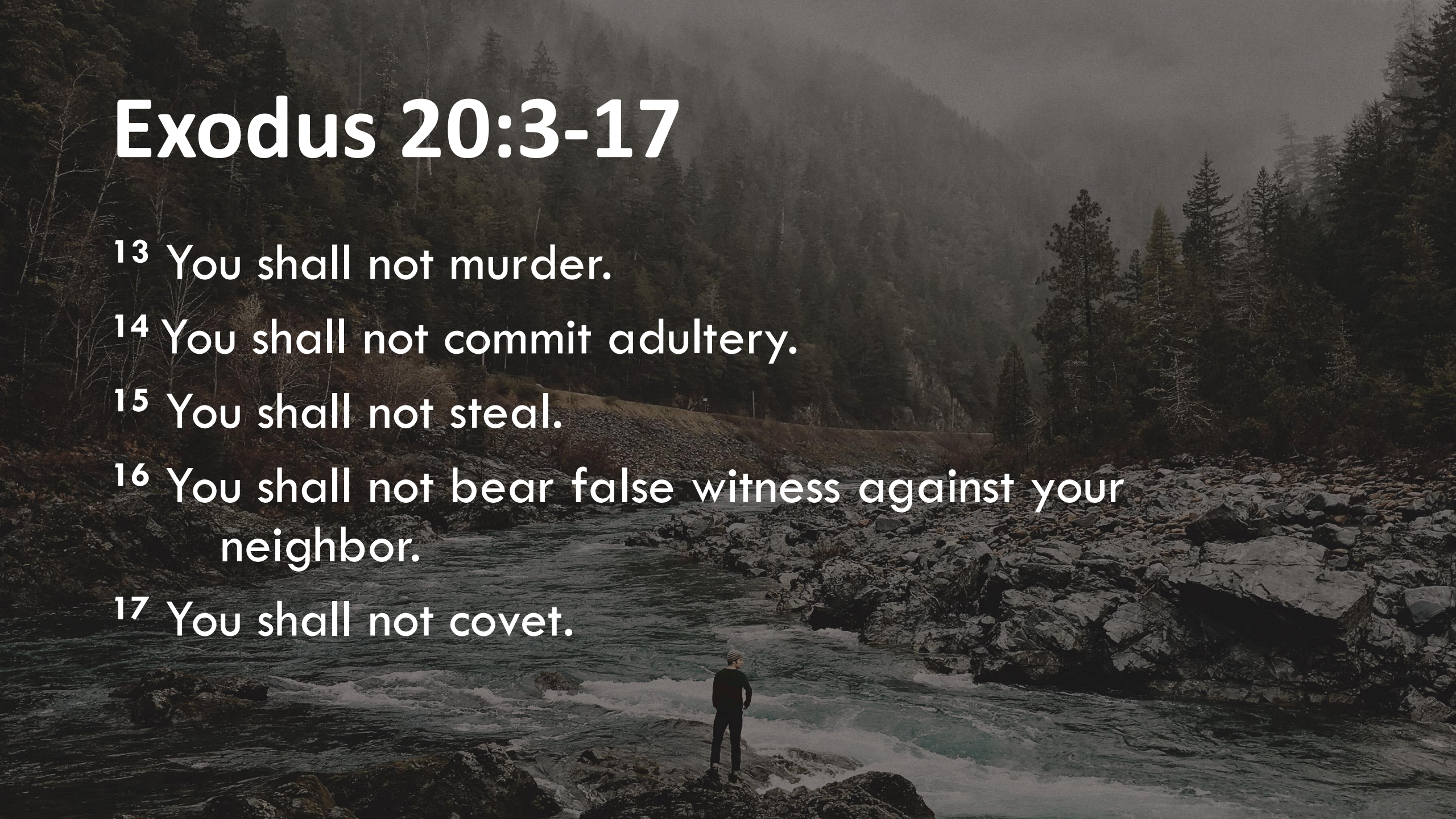
<sup>13</sup> You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup> You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup> You shall not steal.

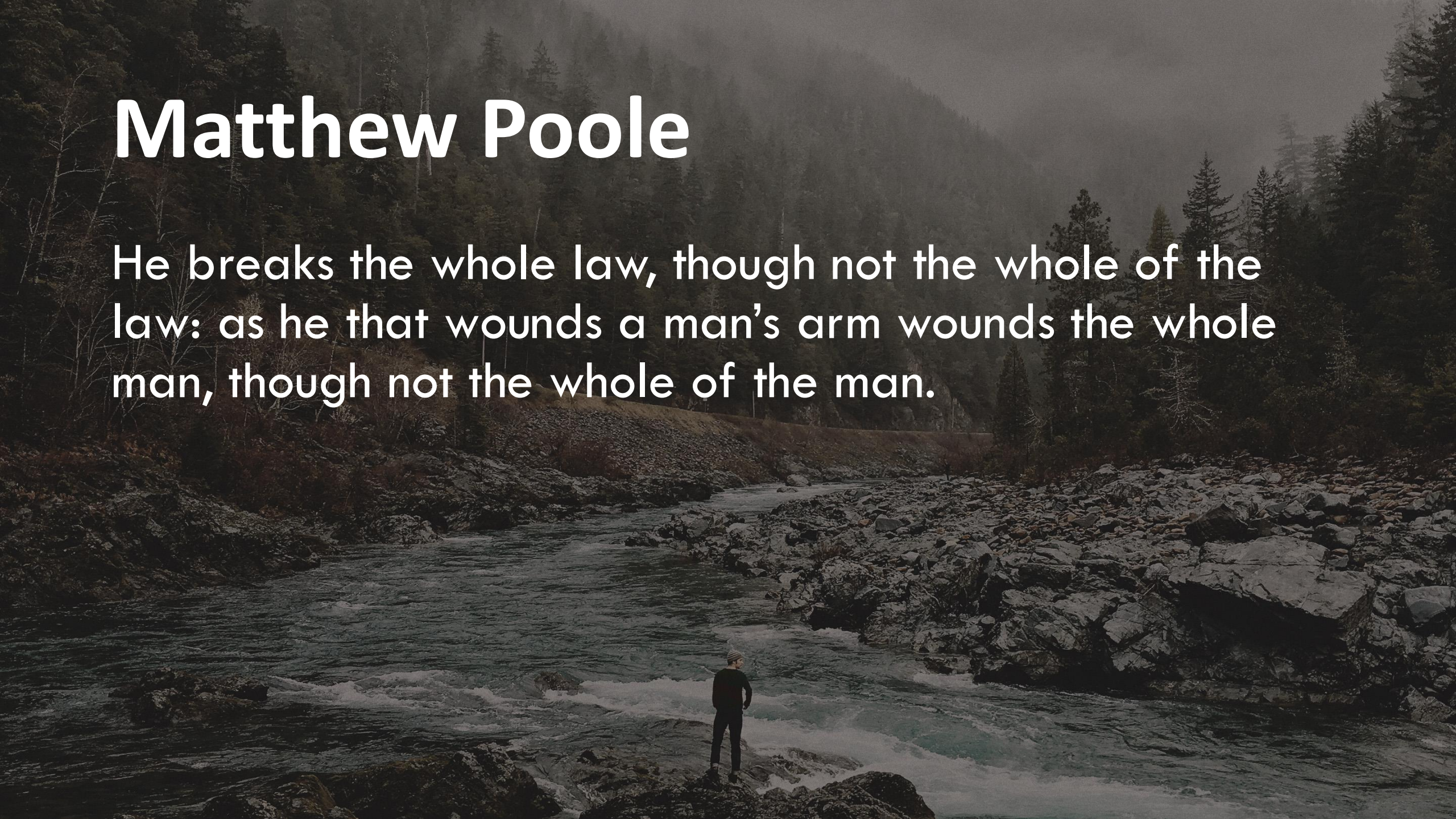
<sup>16</sup> You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup> You shall not covet.



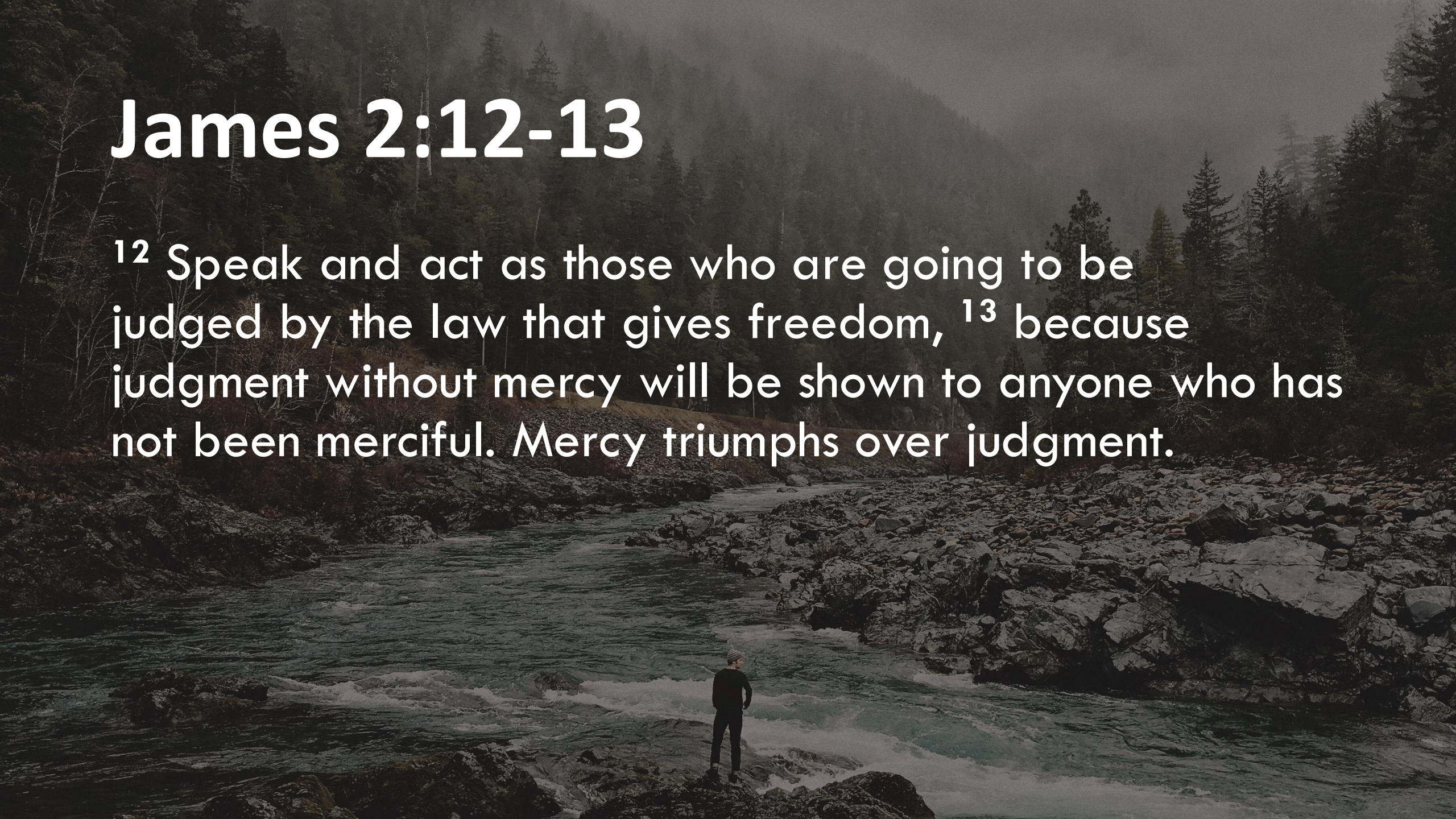
# Matthew Poole

He breaks the whole law, though not the whole of the law: as he that wounds a man's arm wounds the whole man, though not the whole of the man.



# James 2:12-13

<sup>12</sup> Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, <sup>13</sup> because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.



# 2 Corinthians 5:10

<sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.



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