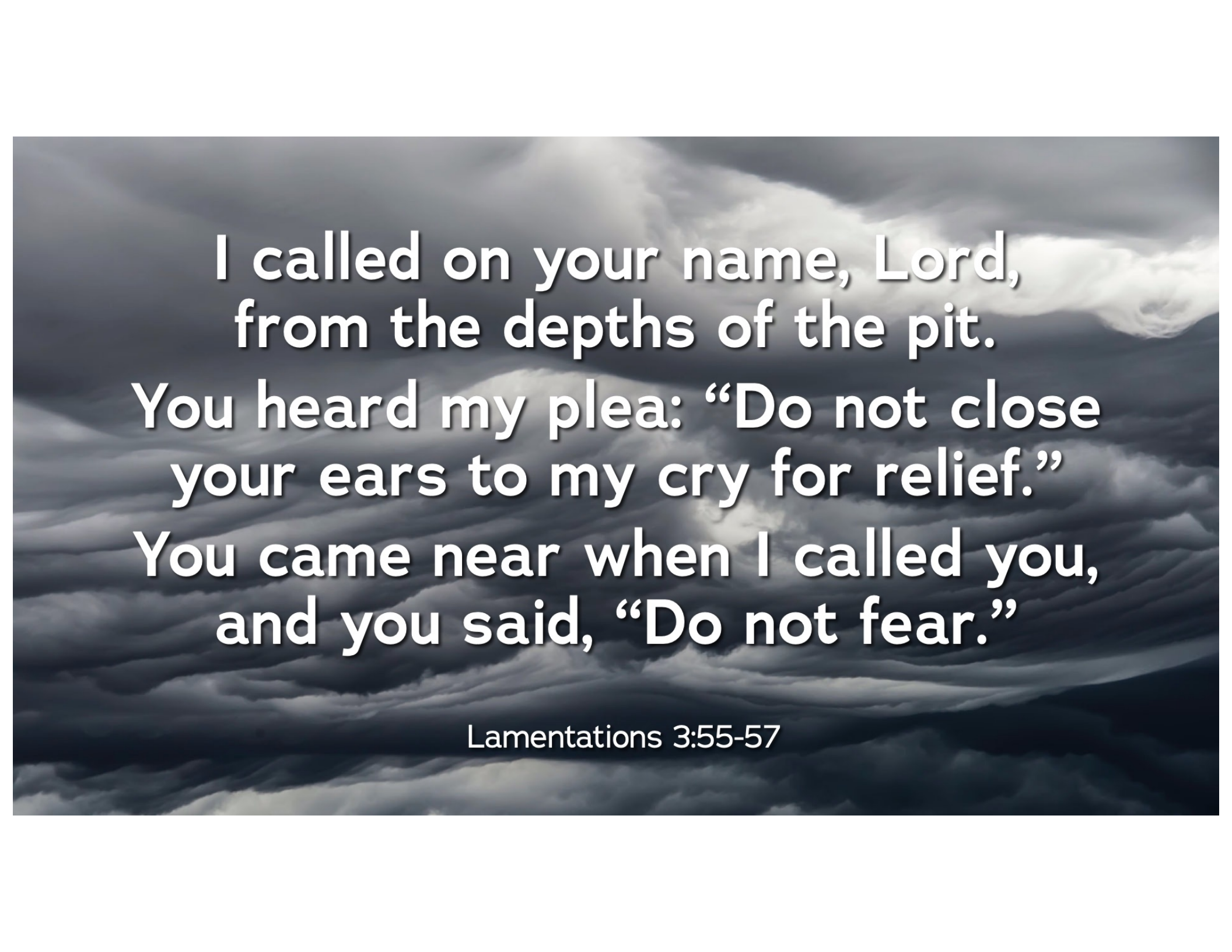




LAMENTATIONS

DARK CLOUDS, DEEP MERCY



I called on your name, Lord,
from the depths of the pit.
You heard my plea: “Do not close
your ears to my cry for relief.”
You came near when I called you,
and you said, “Do not fear.”

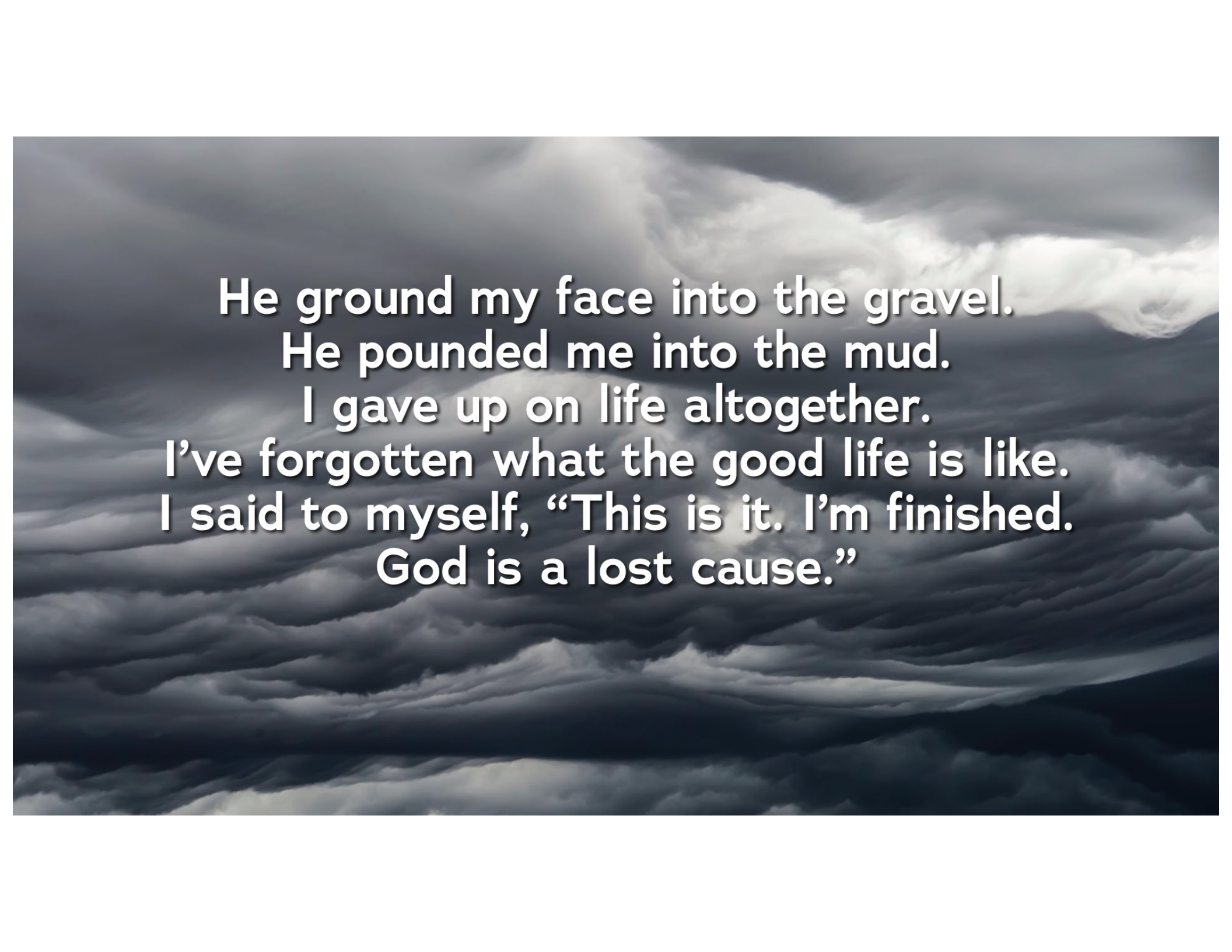
Lamentations 3:55-57



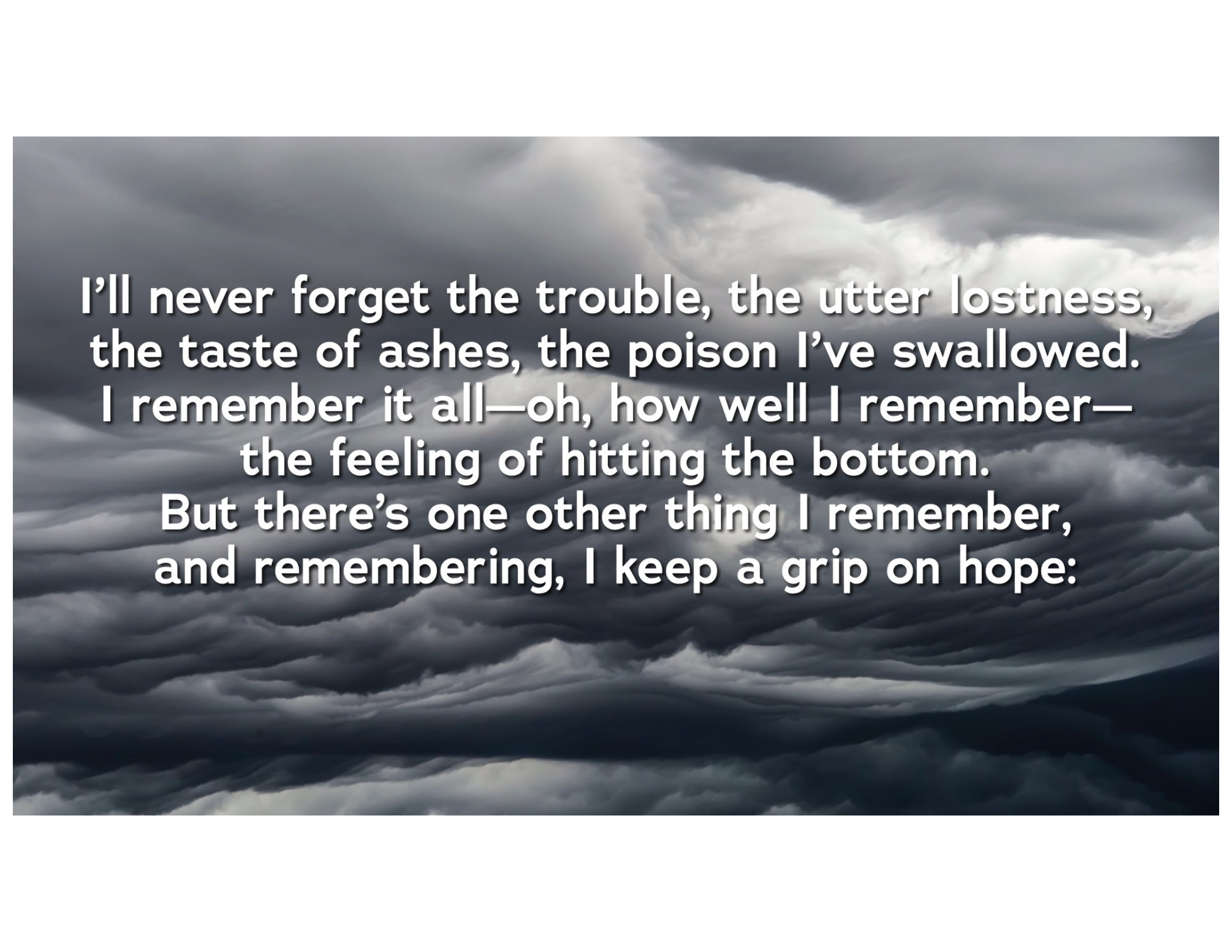
LAMENTATIONS

DARK CLOUDS, DEEP MERCY


Lament and the Power of “And”




He ground my face into the gravel.
He pounded me into the mud.
I gave up on life altogether.
I've forgotten what the good life is like.
I said to myself, "This is it. I'm finished.
God is a lost cause."




I'll never forget the trouble, the utter lostness,
the taste of ashes, the poison I've swallowed.
I remember it all—oh, how well I remember—
the feeling of hitting the bottom.
But there's one other thing I remember,
and remembering, I keep a grip on hope:



**There's something reliable
and trustworthy about God's
unfailing love in spite of all
the pain and loss we
experience**






**God's loyal love couldn't have run out,
his merciful love couldn't have dried up.
They're created new every morning.
How great your faithfulness!**



**Our feelings and emotions
cannot describe the whole
story**





I'll never forget the trouble, the utter lostness,
the taste of ashes, the poison I've swallowed.
I remember it all—oh, how well I remember—
the feeling of hitting the bottom.

Lamentations 3:19



**We don't have to police or
correct the lament of others**





**I'm sticking with GOD
(I say it over and over).
He's all I've got to left.**

Lamentations 3:16-22



**God's mercies are constantly
showing up afresh in God's
mysterious intervention in
the world and in the Spirit's
empowerment of us to care
for one another**





We need to practice remembering what is true about God alongside all of the suffering.

Lament is that practice.



**What do I know to always be
true about God?**

