

OPULENCE



**“And this hope will never disappoint us,
because God has poured out his love to fill
our hearts. God gave us his love through the
Holy Spirit, whom God has given to us.”
Rom. 5:5 ICB**

GOD’S LOVE IS:

**1. LAVISHLY SUPPLIED TO THE MOST OBNOXIOUS.
Vs. 6-8**

“For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.” vs. 6

“For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” vs. 7-8

A. Weak.

**“And it happened that as He was reclining at the table in the house, behold many tax-gatherers and sinners came and were dining with Jesus and His disciples.”
Matt. 9:10**

“But when Jesus heard this, He said, ‘It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. But go and learn what this means, ‘I desire compassion, and not sacrifice,’ for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.’” Matt. 9:12-13

B. Wicked.

“For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks...” Rom. 1:21

C. Wayward.

D. Warring.

“...He made peace with everything in heaven and on earth by means of Christ’s blood on the cross. This included you who were once far away from God. You were his enemies, separated from Him by your evil thoughts and actions.”

Col. 1:21 (NLB)

2. ABLE TO TRANSFORM THE MOST INSUFFICIENT. Vs. 9-10

“Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.” vs. 9-10

A. Justified.

“Can we boast, then, that we have done anything to be accepted by God? No, because our acquittal is not based on obeying the law. It is based on faith.” Rom. 3:27 (NLT)

B. Rescued from wrath.

“For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.”

1 Thess. 5:9-10 (NIV)

C. Reconciled.

D. Saved by His life.

“Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.” Heb. 7:25 (NIV)

3. REASON TO ERUPT WITH REJOICING. vs. 11

“And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.” vs. 11

APPLICATION FOR ME:

Love the Lord your God.

“But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first...”

Rev. 2:4-5

Love your neighbor.

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.” 1 John 4:11

Serve as an Ambassador of His love.

“For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.” 2 Cor. 5:14-15 (NIV)

Do not love the world.

“For Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me...” 2 Tim. 4:10

OPULENCE



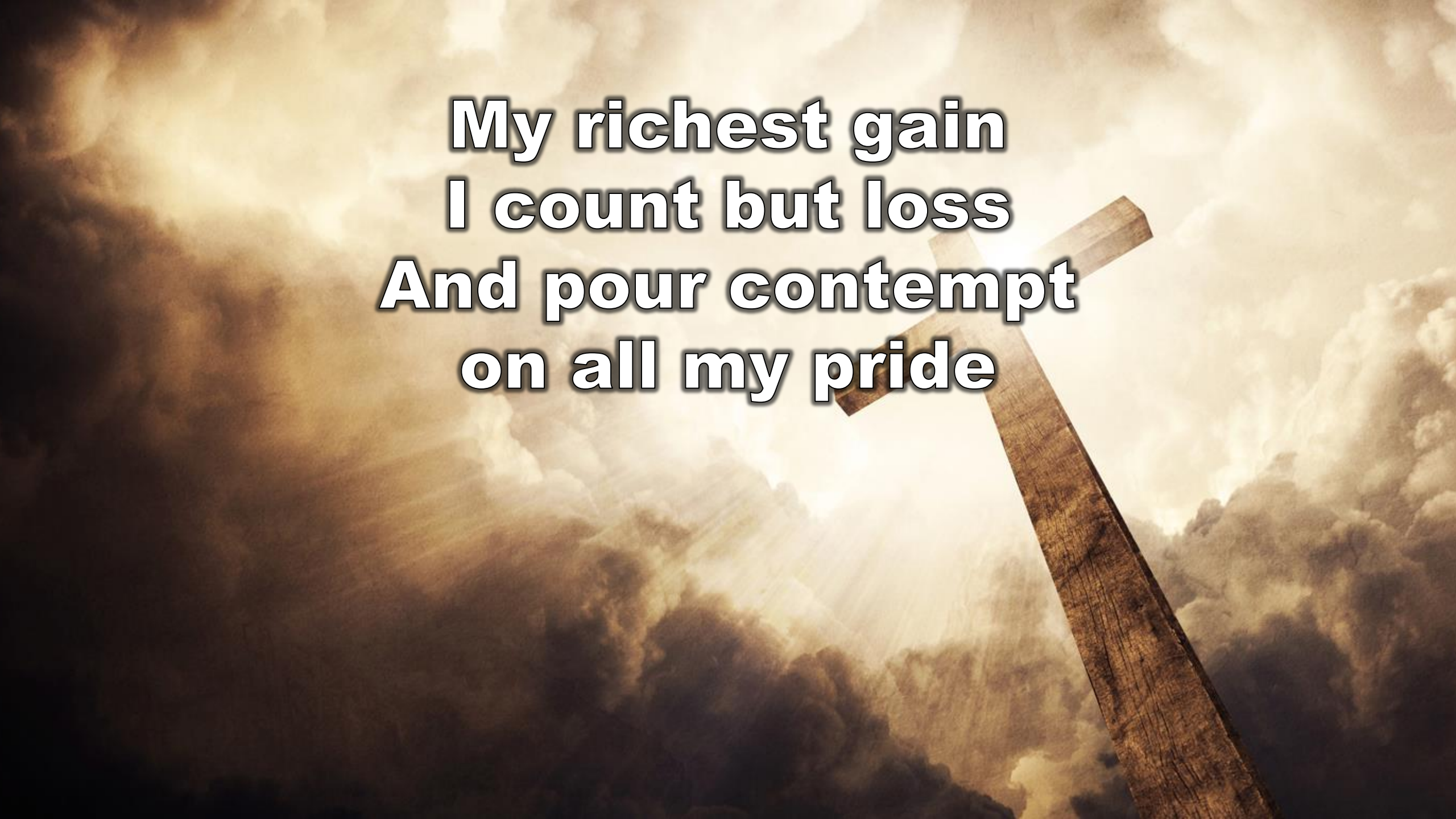
The Wonderful Cross



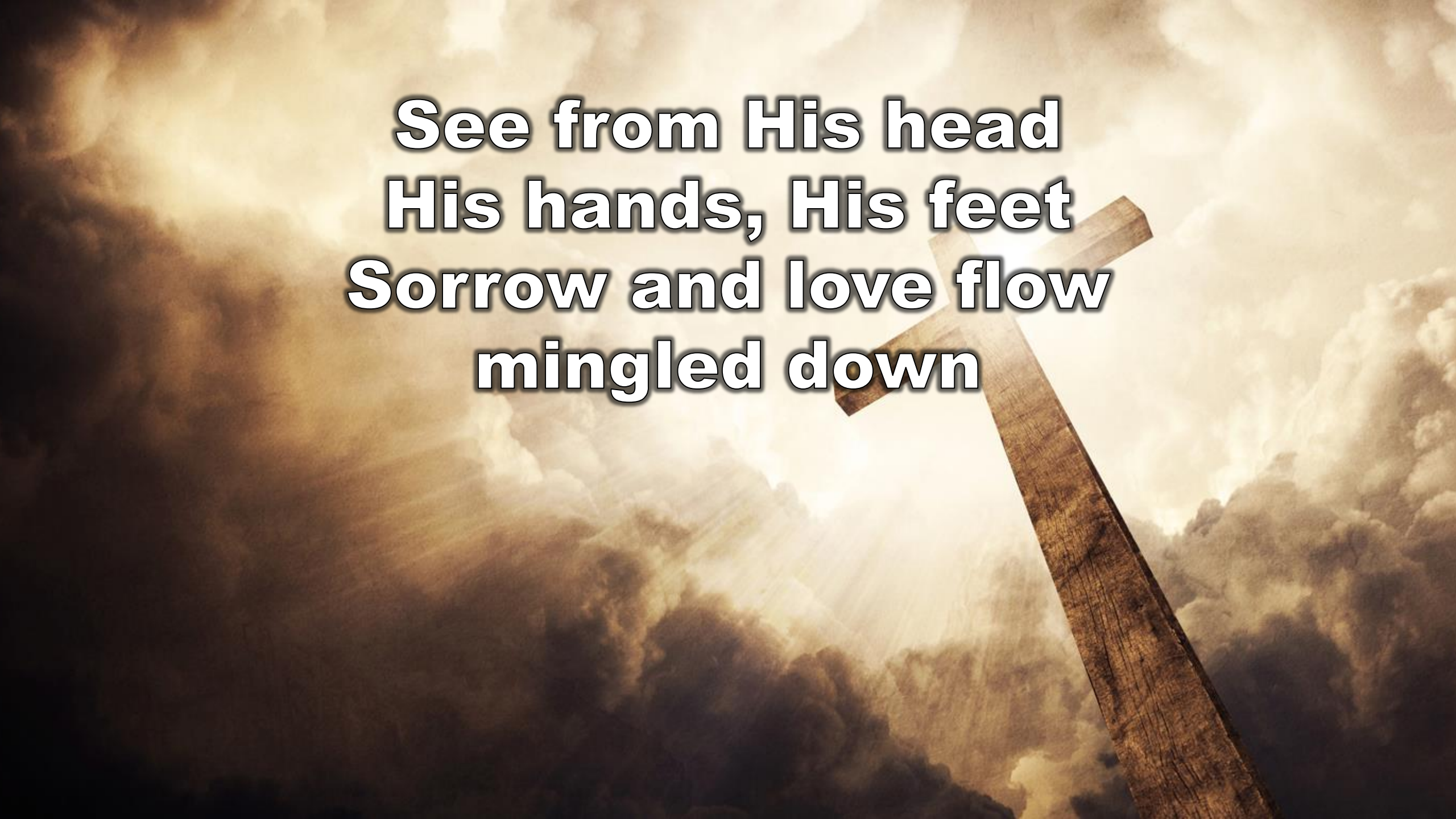
CCLI #1064934

**When I survey
the wondrous cross
On which the
Prince of Glory died**

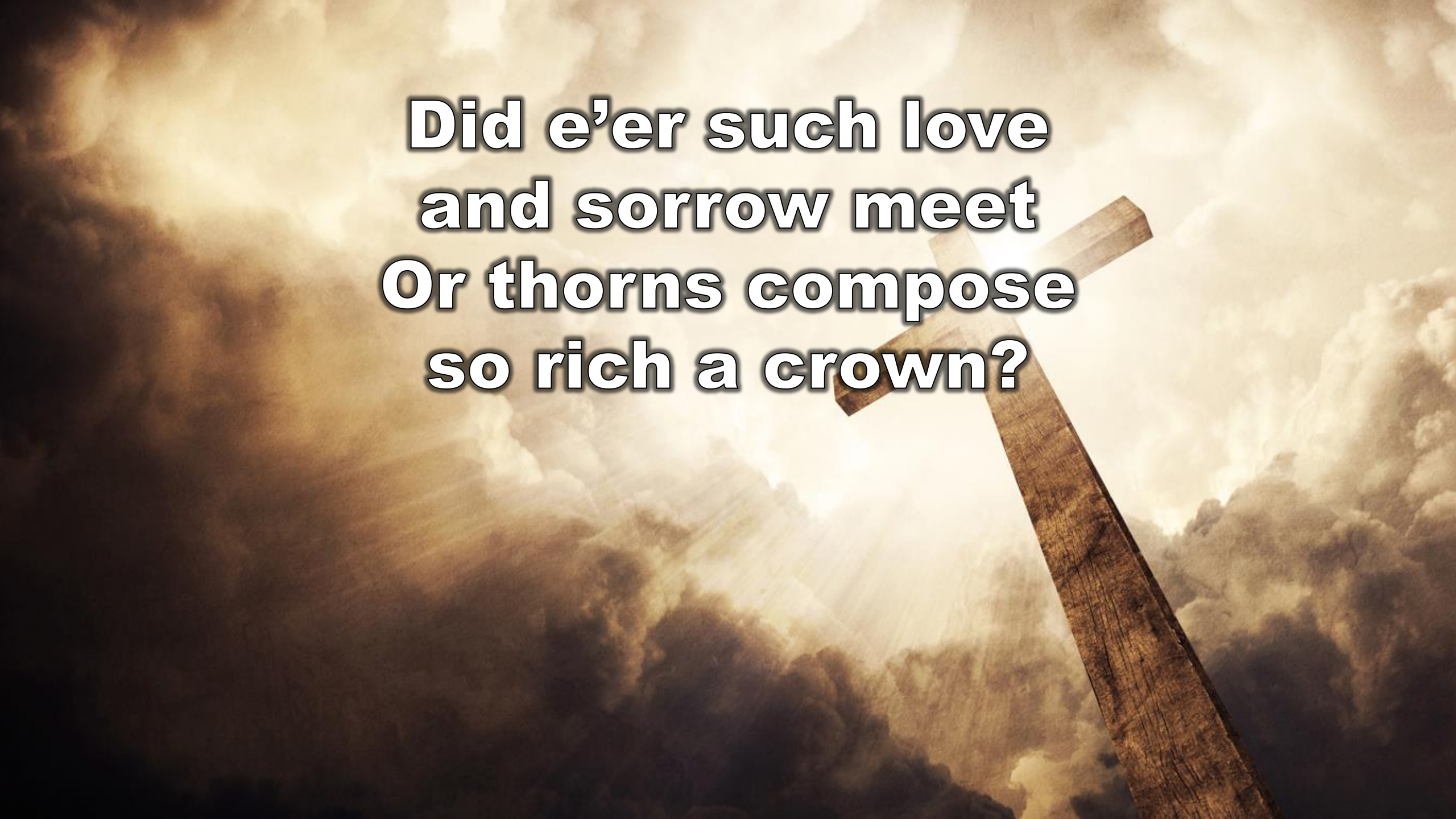


The background of the image is a dramatic sky filled with dark, swirling clouds. A bright light source, likely the sun, is positioned behind a wooden cross, creating a powerful lens flare effect that radiates across the sky. The cross is made of two weathered wooden beams and is oriented diagonally, with its top pointing towards the upper right corner of the frame. The overall color palette is dominated by warm, golden-brown and sepia tones, contributing to a solemn and spiritual atmosphere.

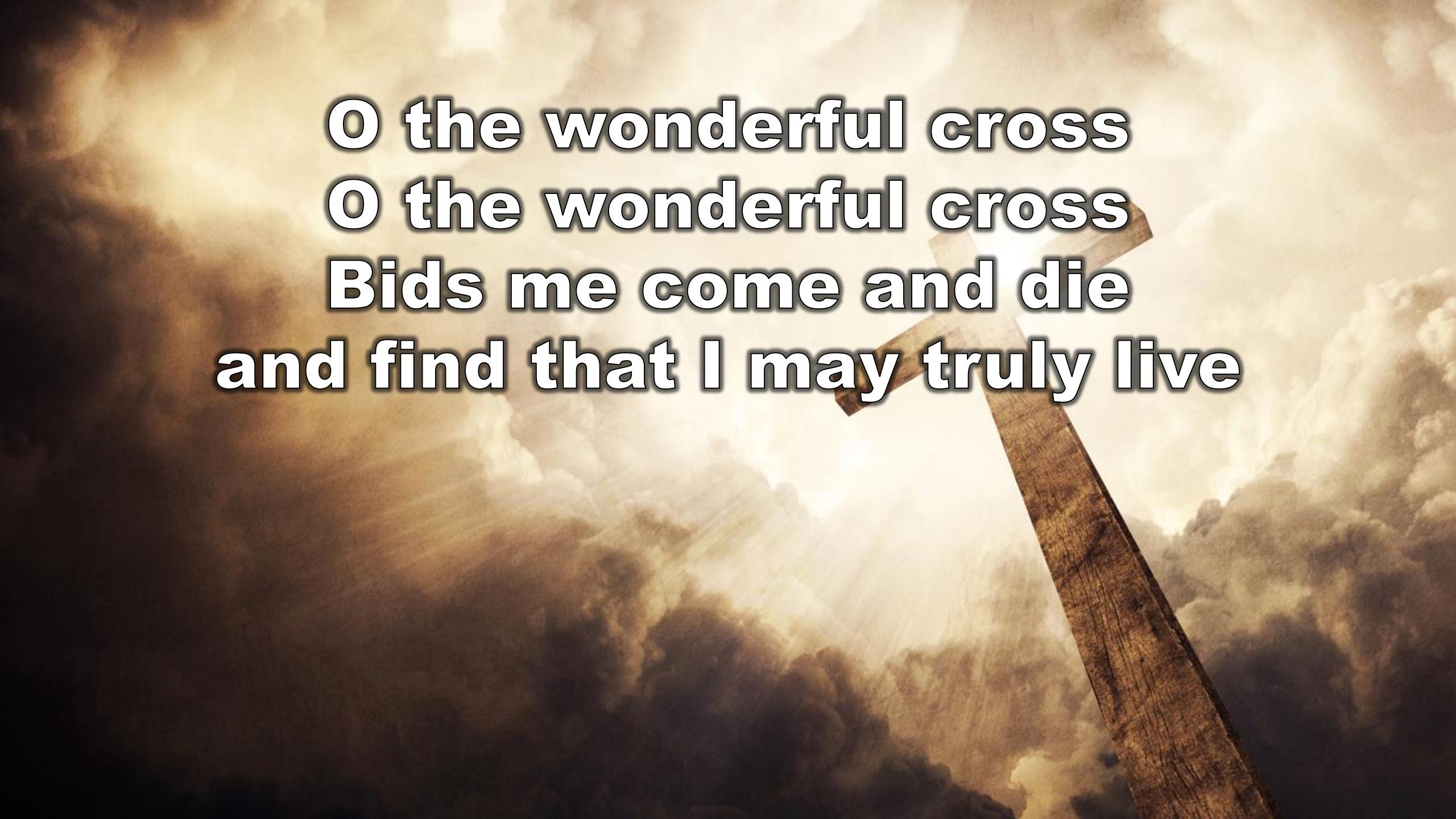
**My richest gain
I count but loss
And pour contempt
on all my pride**



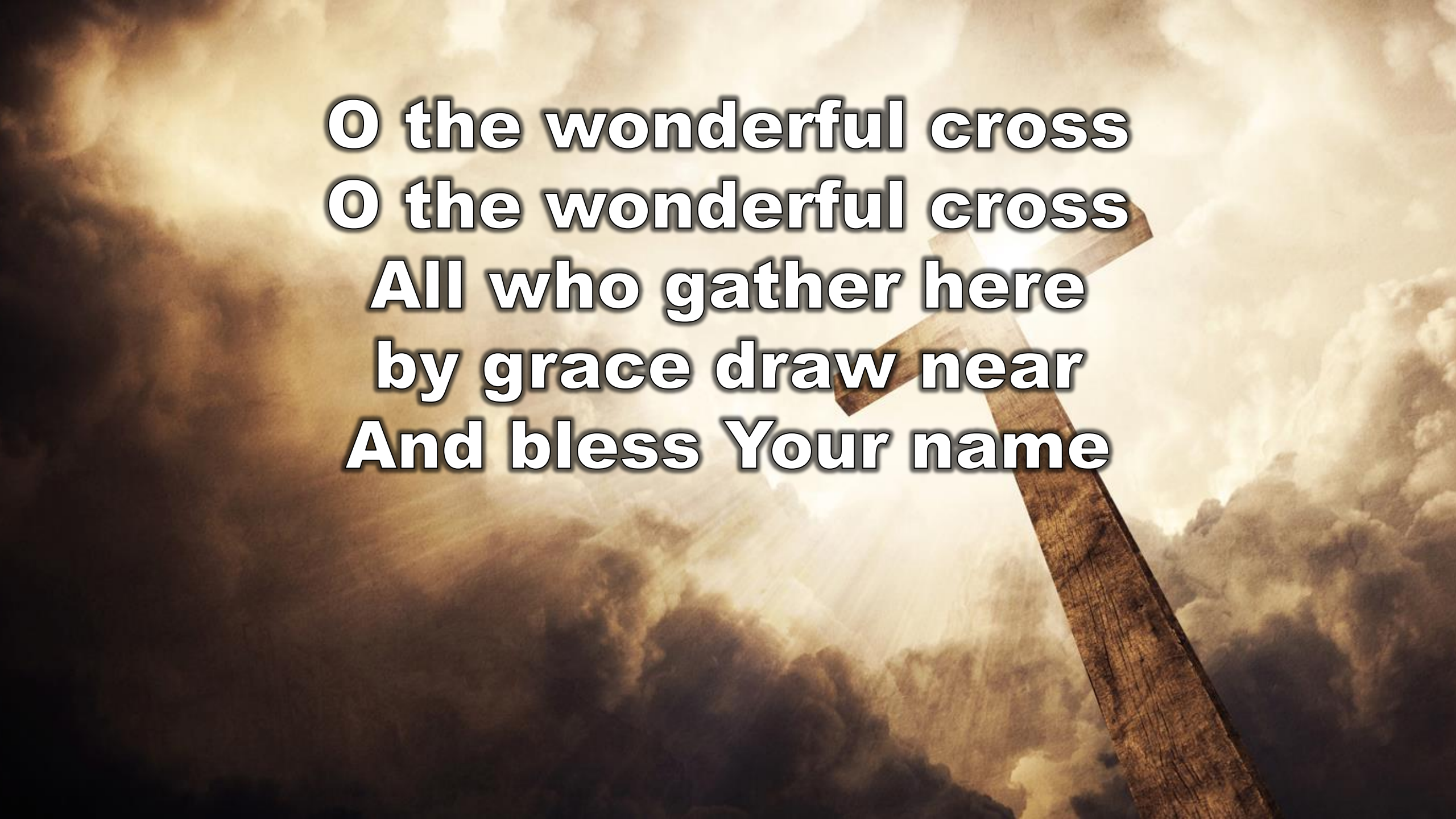
**See from His head
His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow
mingled down**



**Did e'er such love
and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose
so rich a crown?**



**O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
Bids me come and die
and find that I may truly live**



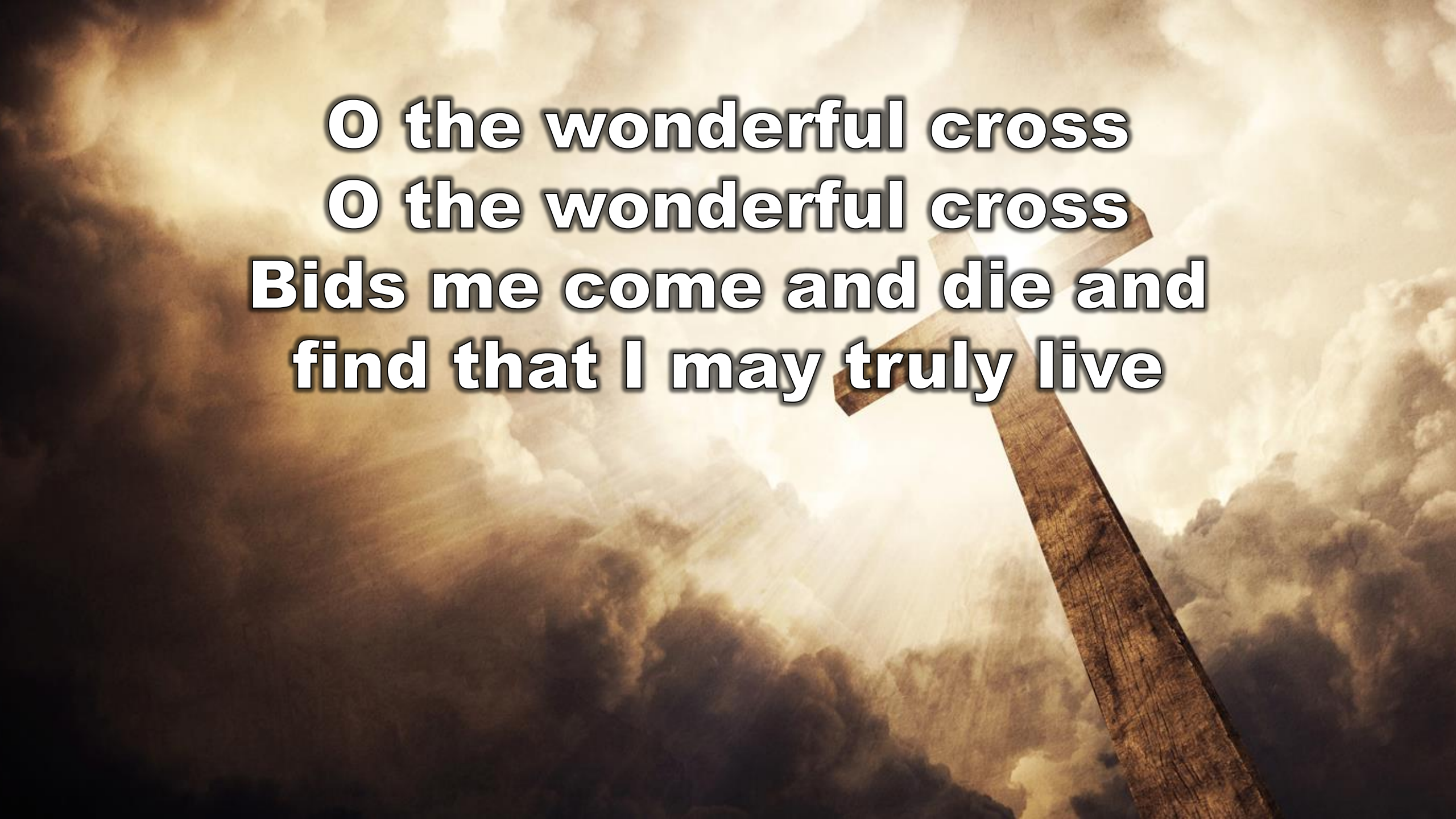
**O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
All who gather here
by grace draw near
And bless Your name**

**Were the whole realm
of nature mine
That were an offering
far too small**

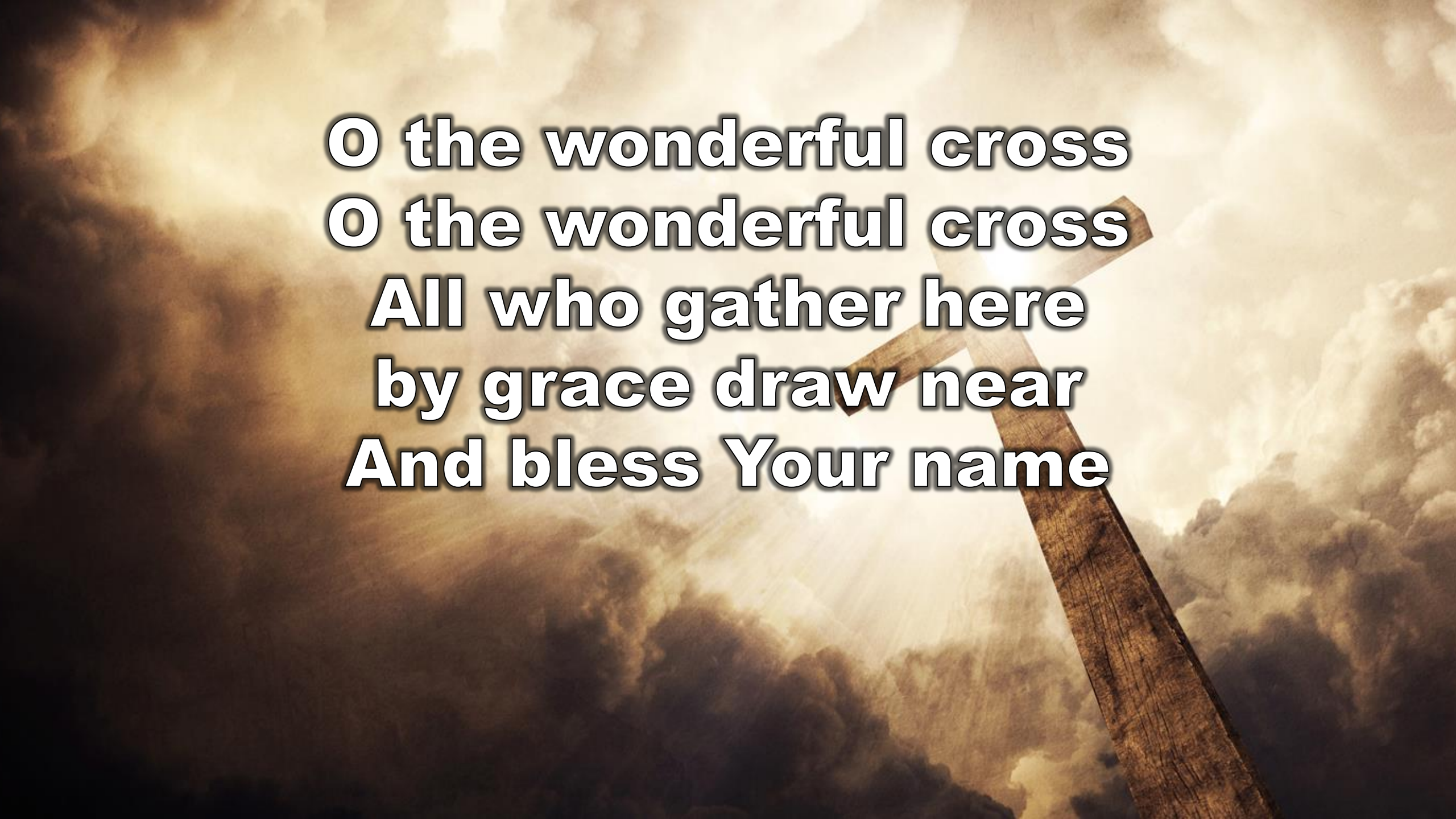


The background of the image is a dramatic, low-angle shot of a sky filled with thick, golden-brown clouds. A large, weathered wooden cross is positioned diagonally, extending from the bottom right towards the upper center. A bright, glowing light source, likely the sun, is positioned behind the cross, creating a strong lens flare and illuminating the clouds with a warm, golden light. The overall mood is one of awe and divine presence.

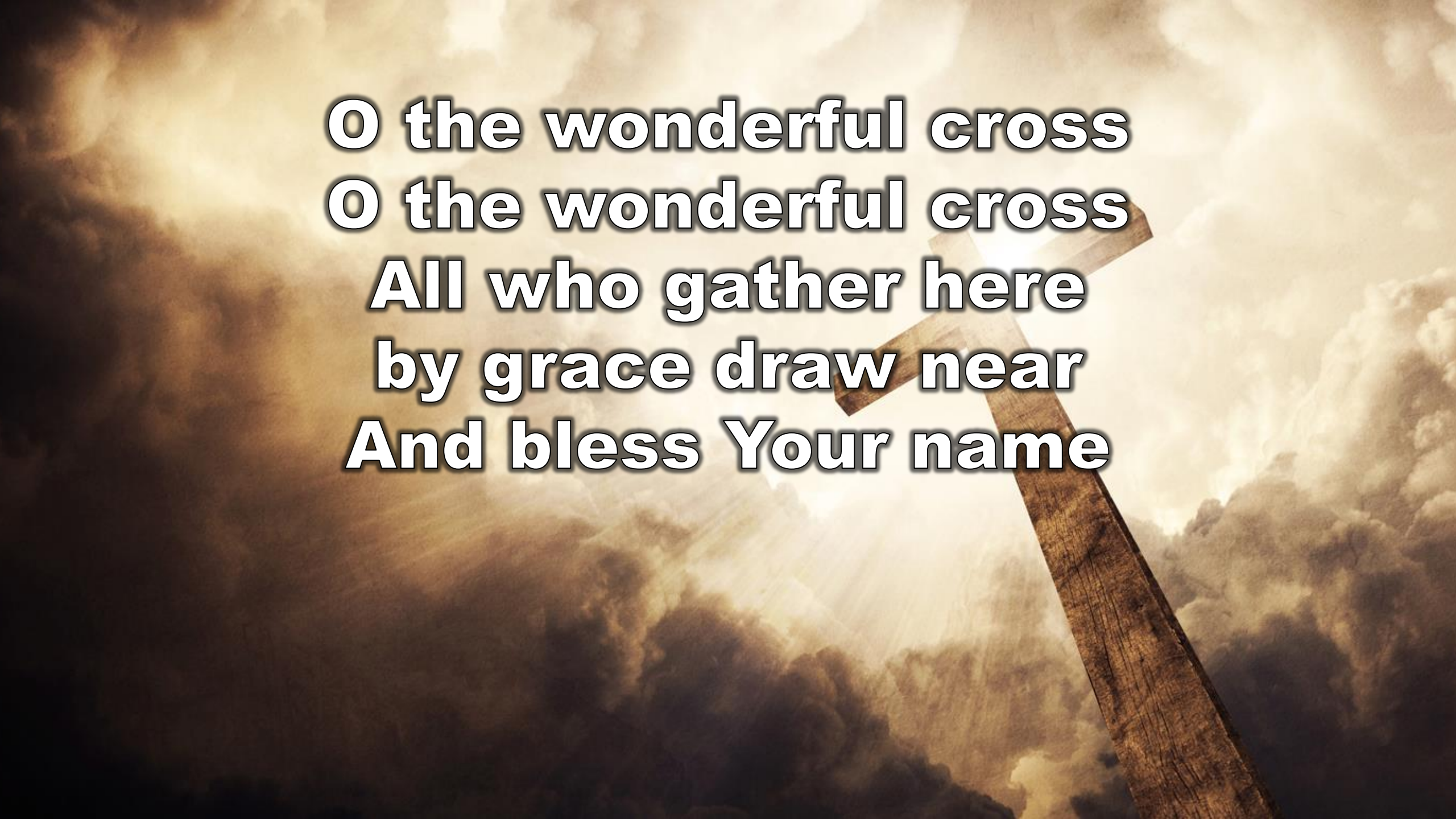
**Love so amazing
so divine
Demands my soul
my life, my all**



**O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
Bids me come and die and
find that I may truly live**



**O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
All who gather here
by grace draw near
And bless Your name**



**O the wonderful cross
O the wonderful cross
All who gather here
by grace draw near
And bless Your name**

**Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul
my life, my all**



