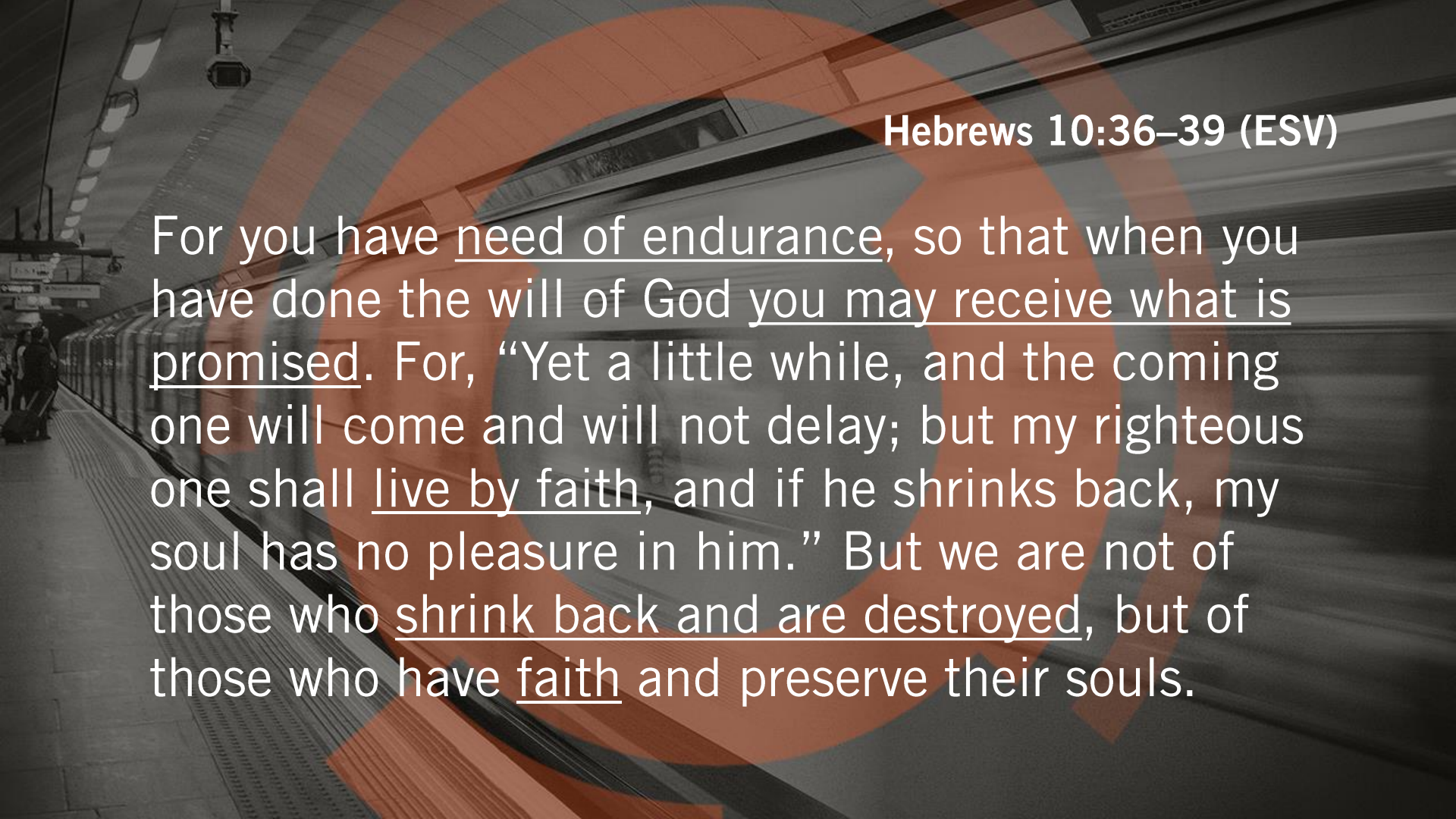
A blurred high-speed train is shown at a station platform. The train is moving from left to right, creating a sense of motion. The platform is visible on the left side. A large, semi-transparent orange circular graphic is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text. The background is a grayscale image of the train and platform.

**2017 (a year of)
Sowing for Reaping**
Manus Altmann

A blurred high-speed train is shown in motion at a station platform. The train is moving from left to right, creating a sense of speed. The platform is visible on the left side, with a few people standing. A large, semi-transparent orange circular graphic is overlaid on the center of the image, framing the text. The overall image has a dark, muted color palette.

How to live in 2017?



Hebrews 10:36–39 (ESV)

For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. For, “Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.” But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.

A blurred high-speed train is shown at a station platform. The train is moving from left to right, creating a sense of motion. The platform is visible on the left side. A large, semi-transparent orange 'X' watermark is overlaid on the entire image. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

James 2:17–20 (NIV)

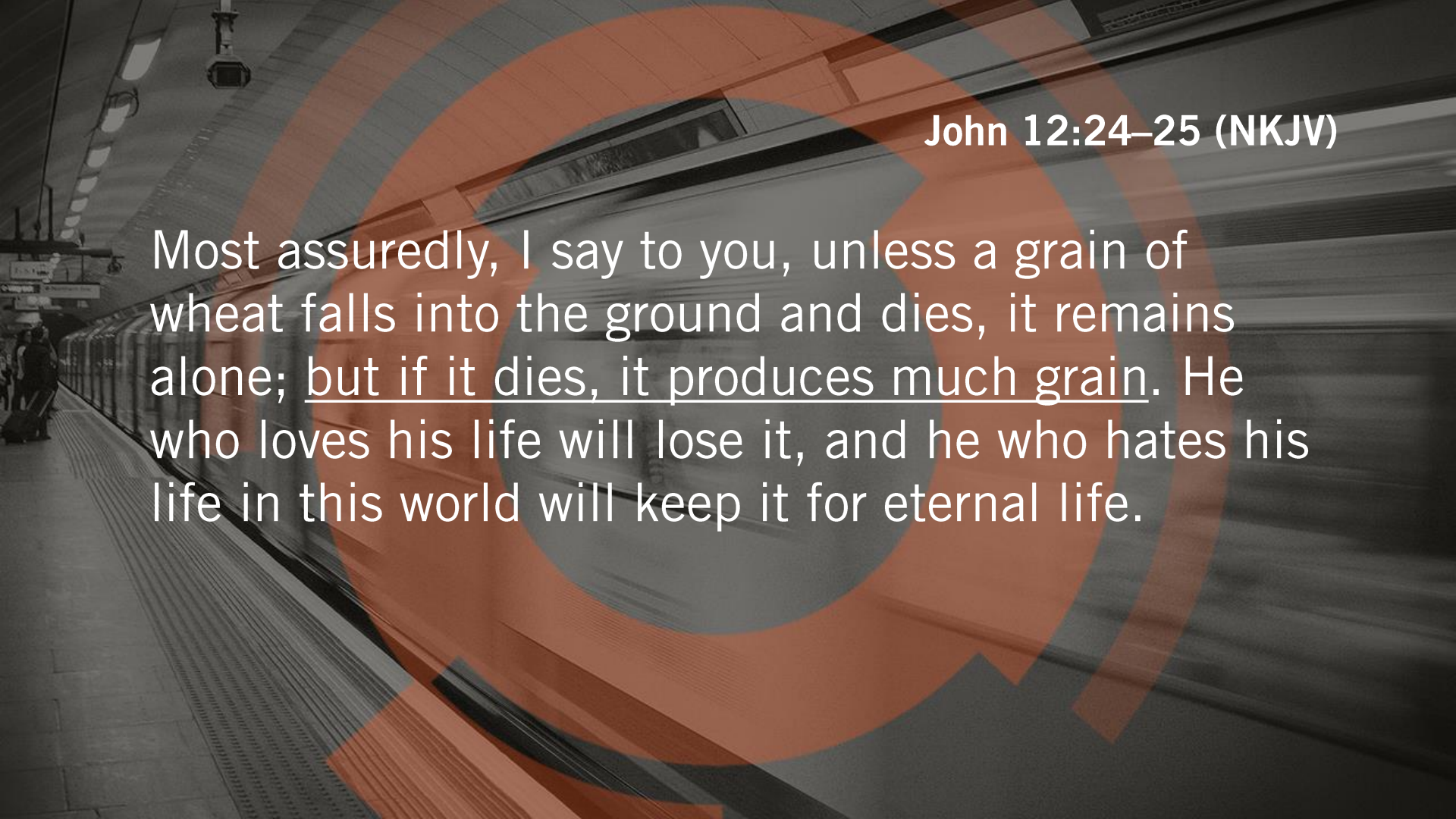
In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder. You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? ...Abraham offered Isaac

A blurred high-speed train is shown in motion at a station platform. The train is moving from left to right, creating a sense of speed. The platform is visible on the left side, with some people standing. A large, semi-transparent orange circular graphic is overlaid on the center of the image, partially obscuring the train. The text "Seeds for sowing is 2017" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image, centered within the orange circle.

Seeds for sowing is 2017

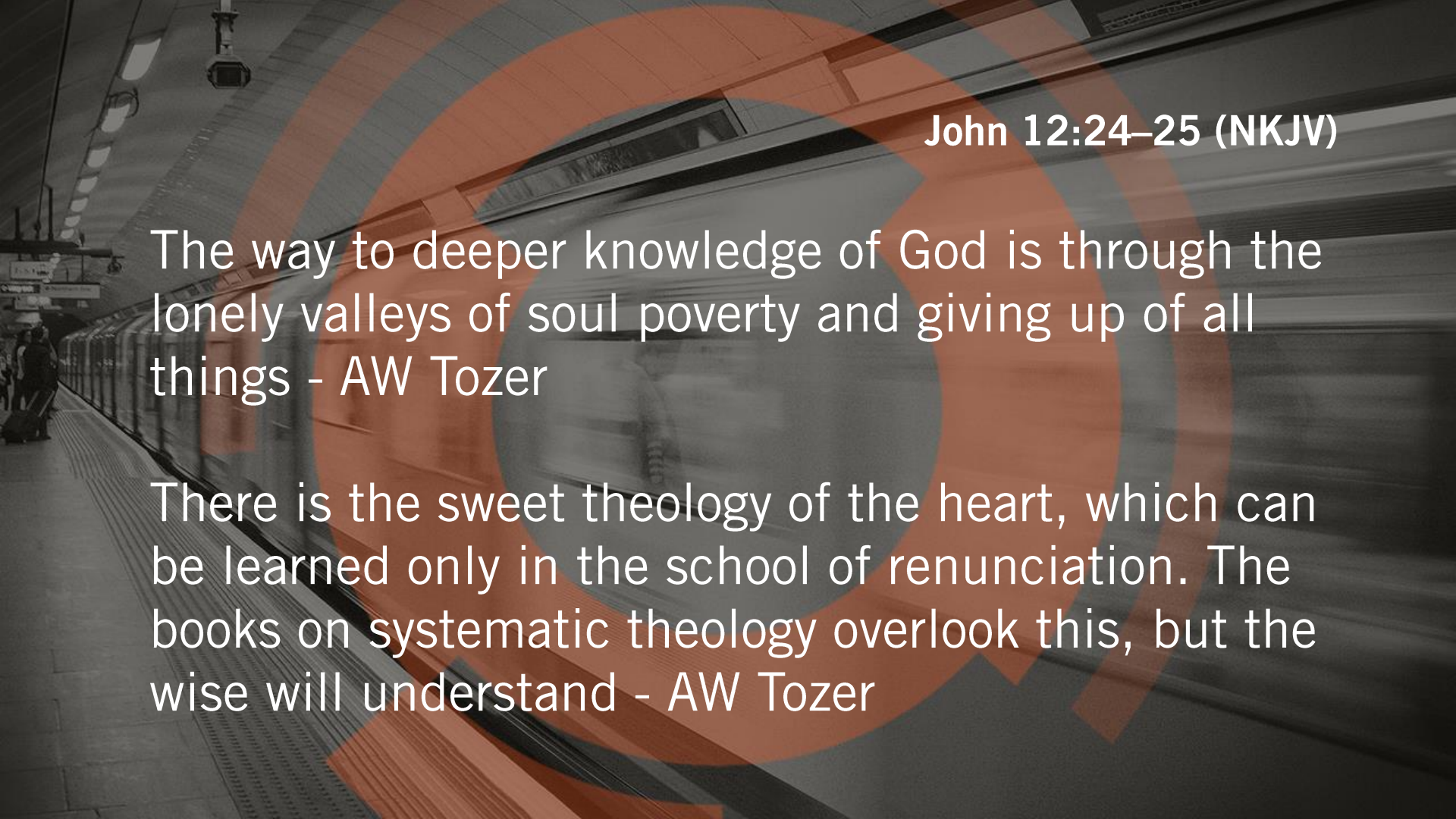
A blurred high-speed train is shown at a station platform. The train is moving from left to right, creating a sense of motion. The platform is visible on the left side. A large, semi-transparent orange circular graphic is overlaid on the image, centered around the text. The text "Letting go!" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font within the center of the orange circle.

Letting go!

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John 12:24–25 (NKJV)

Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.



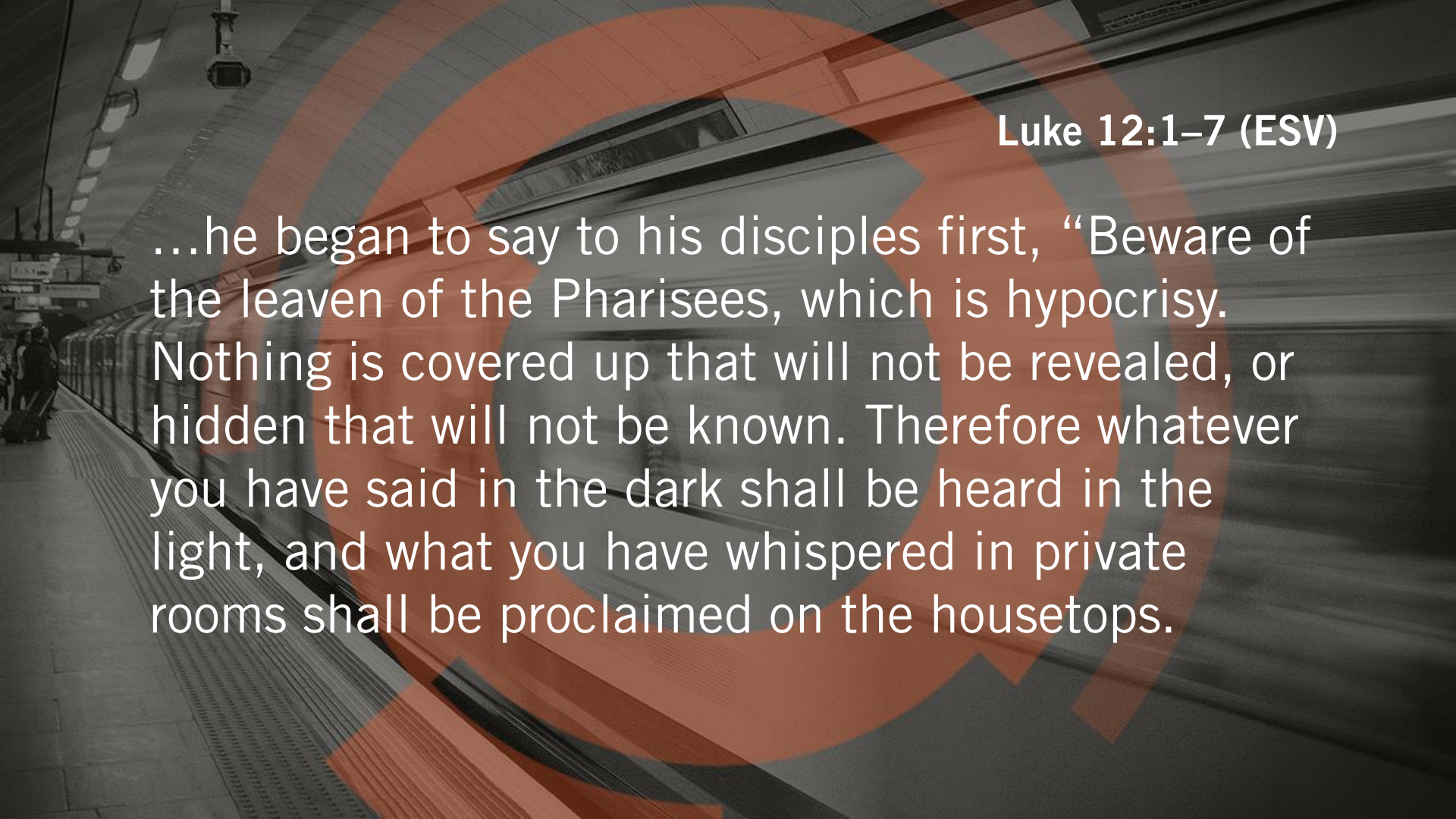
John 12:24–25 (NKJV)

The way to deeper knowledge of God is through the lonely valleys of soul poverty and giving up of all things - AW Tozer

There is the sweet theology of the heart, which can be learned only in the school of renunciation. The books on systematic theology overlook this, but the wise will understand - AW Tozer

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Seeds of Integrity

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Luke 12:1–7 (ESV)

...he began to say to his disciples first, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. Nothing is covered up that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. Therefore whatever you have said in the dark shall be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in private rooms shall be proclaimed on the housetops.

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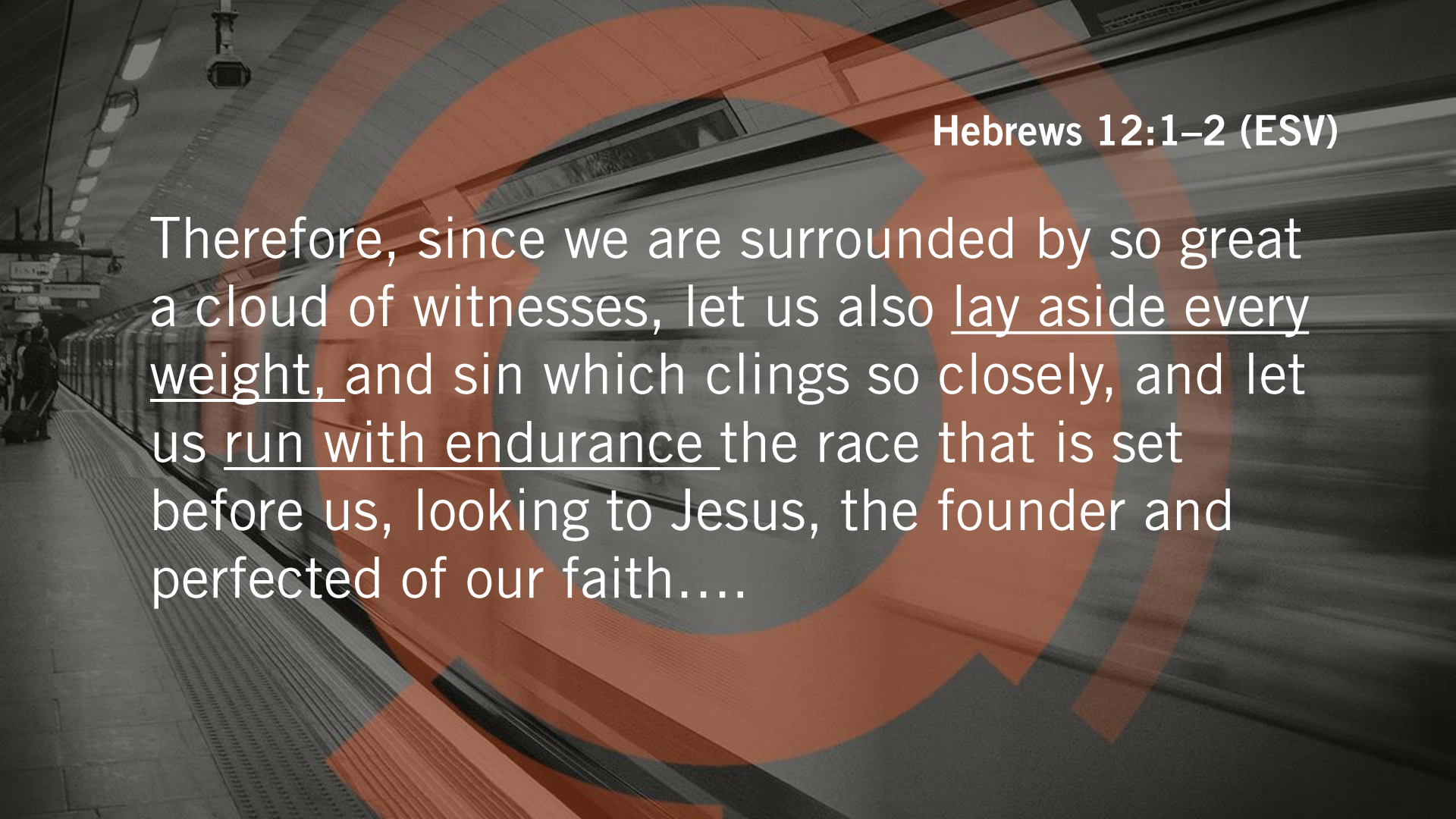
Galatians 6:6–10 (NIV)

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up...

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A blurred high-speed train is shown in motion at a station platform. The train is moving from left to right, creating a sense of speed. The platform is visible on the left side, with a few people standing. A large, semi-transparent orange circular graphic is overlaid on the center of the image, partially obscuring the train. The text "Seeds of Endurance" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the orange circle.

Seeds of Endurance

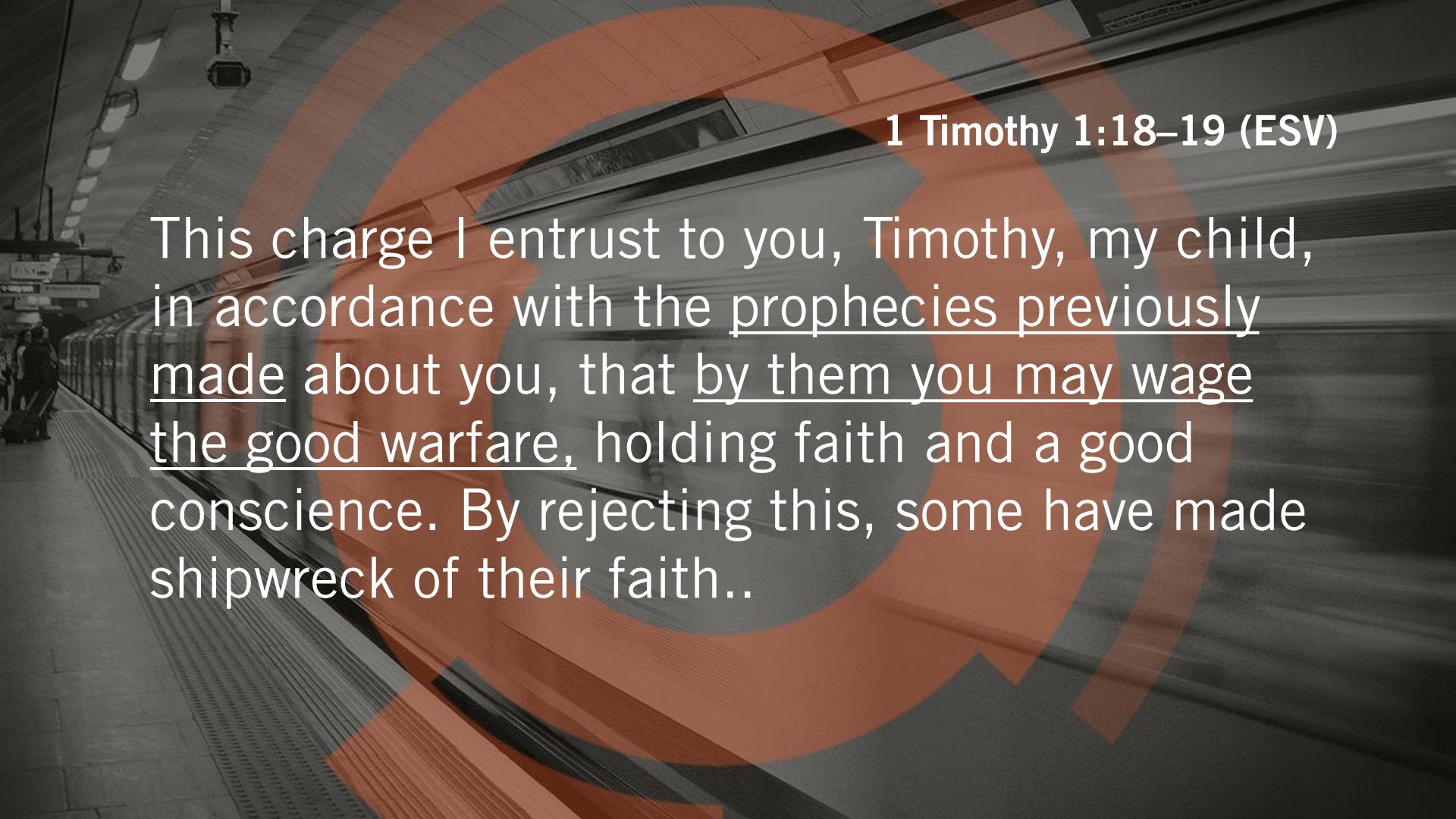


Hebrews 12:1–2 (ESV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfected of our faith....

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Seeds of Promise

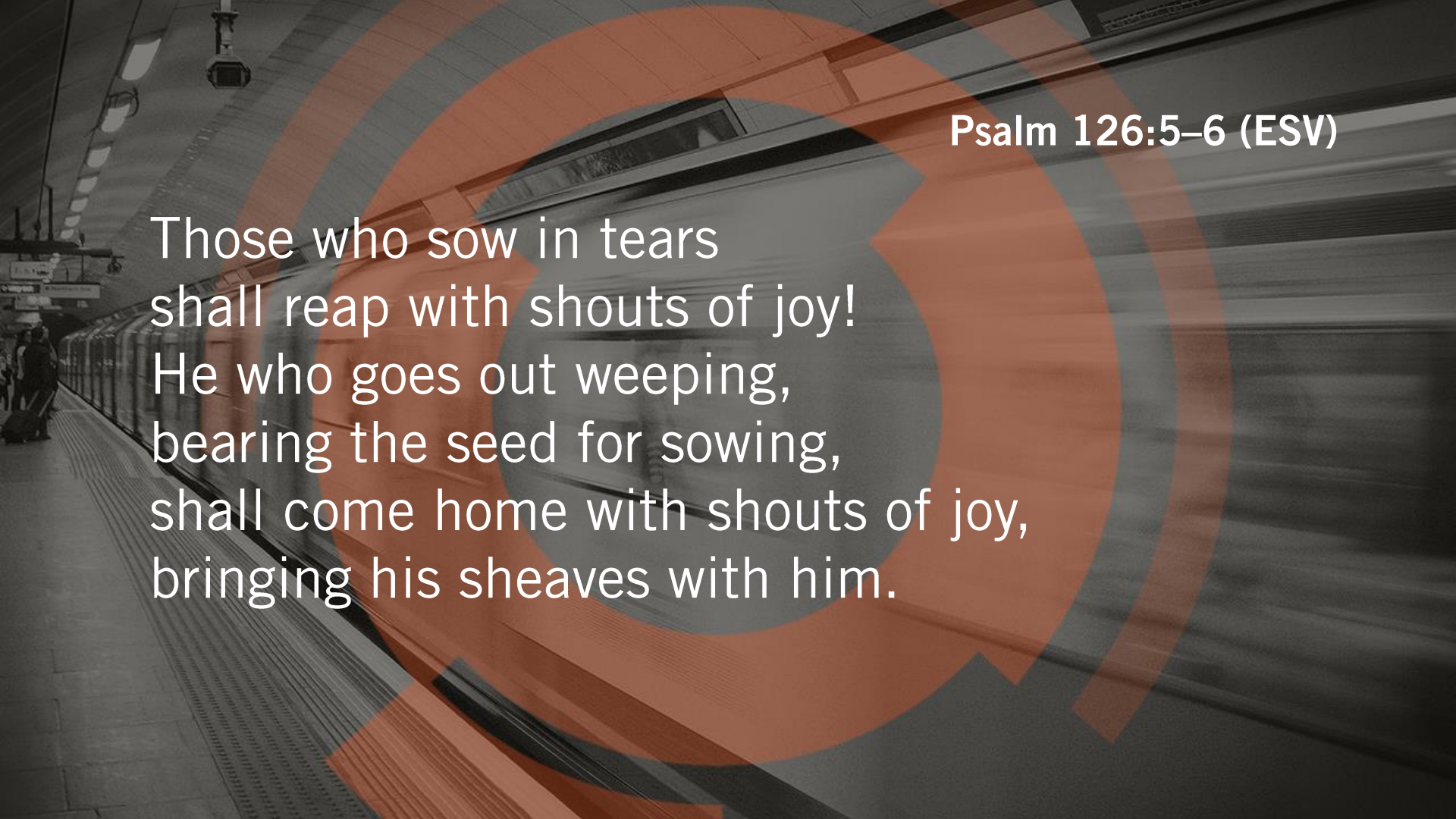


1 Timothy 1:18–19 (ESV)

This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith..

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Seeds of Petition



Psalm 126:5–6 (ESV)

Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!
He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.

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Sowing by faith!

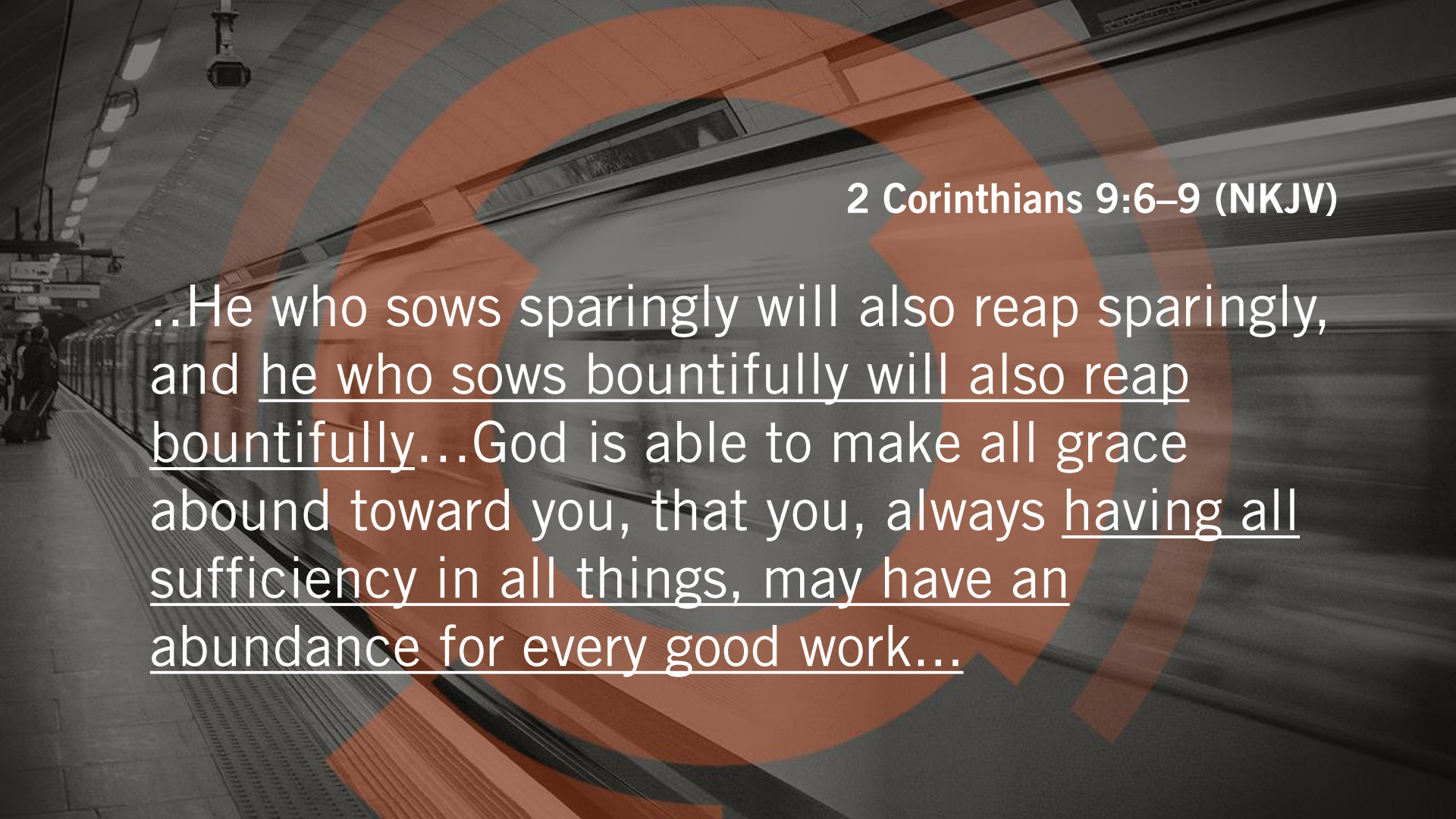


Ecclesiastes 11:4 (NIV)

Whoever watches the wind will not plant;
whoever looks at the clouds will not reap.

2 Corinthians 8:5 (ESV)

and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.



2 Corinthians 9:6–9 (NKJV)

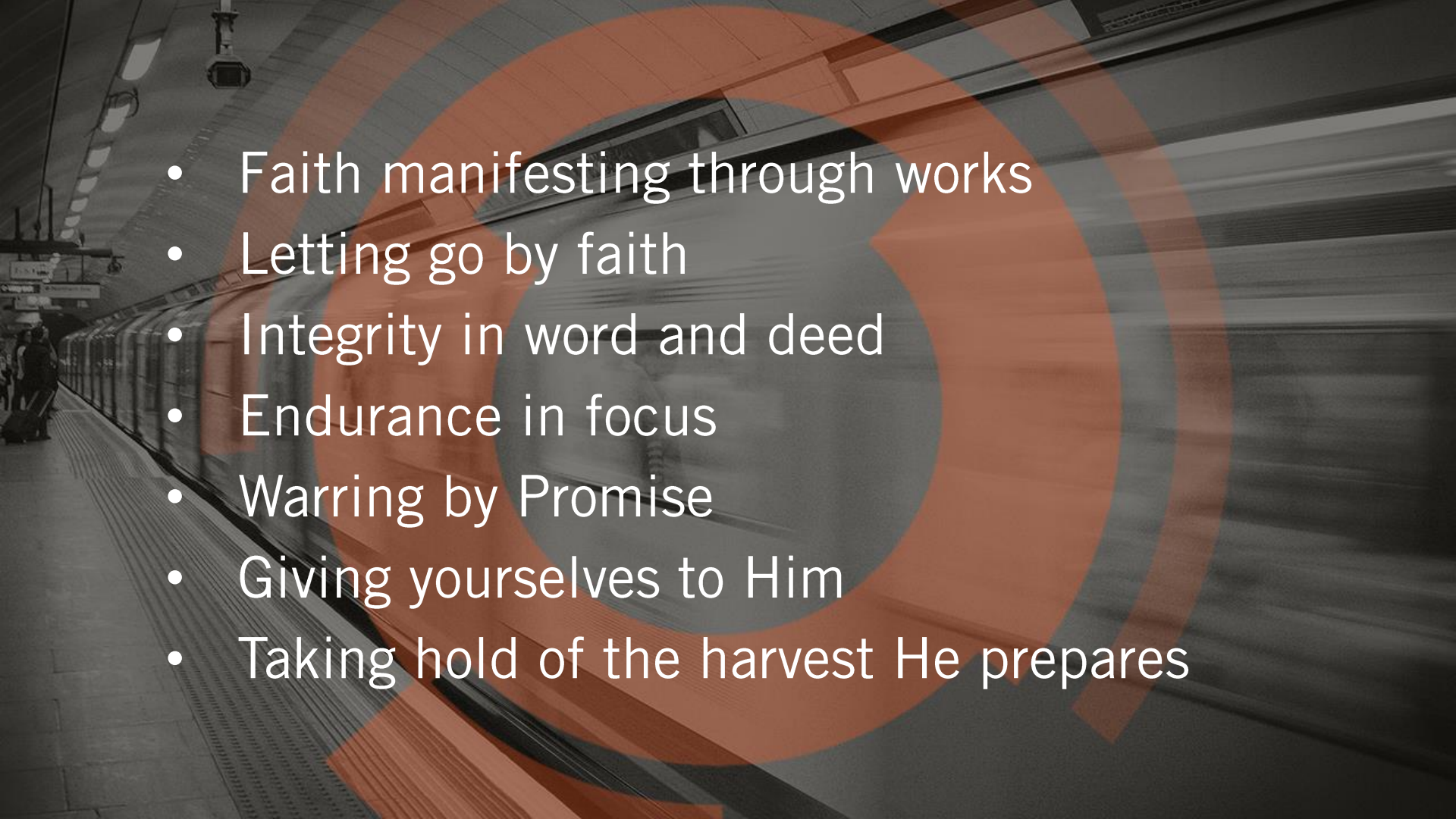
..He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and he who sows bountifully will also reap
bountifully...God is able to make all grace
abound toward you, that you, always having all
sufficiency in all things, may have an
abundance for every good work...

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**Reaping a harvest
(year of jubilee)**

John 4:34–38 (NIV)

..I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying ‘One sows and another reaps’ is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labour.”

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- Faith manifesting through works
 - Letting go by faith
 - Integrity in word and deed
 - Endurance in focus
 - Warring by Promise
 - Giving yourselves to Him
 - Taking hold of the harvest He prepares

Weekly Small Group Notes: (From Sunday Sermon)

1. Welcome: Create hospitable environment (snacks etc.) Introduce SG to visitors and ask group what their goals are for the year.
2. Worship together: 1 or 2 Worship Songs and open SG in prayer committing the year to God
3. SG Questions: (only let 2 or 3 people answer a specific question for time sake)
 - a) Persistence in Sowing: Read Hebrews 10:36–39 & James 2:17–20; Is faith an ideology or does it translate into an active Lifestyle (words and actions) that we persist in? Is God pleased if we “Shrink back” (stop doing the works of faith)?
 - b) Letting go of seeds (everything) unto God: John 12:24–25 (NKJV). Are you willing to trust God with everything this year- even the good things and promises (eg. Isaac). Is the promiser more NB to you than the promise?
 - c) Seeds of Integrity: Luke 12:1–7 (ESV). Why is it NB to God that our words, hearts and actions are in agreement. How can we be people of our words this year?
 - d) Faith in reaping: Read Ecclesiastes 11:4 & John 4:34–38; Is there any time we should not be prepared to reap a harvest (even one that others prepared). Are you content with sowing in one way (eg. prayer, works of faith, financially) and reaping a harvest in another form – eg. souls. Have you seen this happen before?
4. Turn together in groups of 2: Share with each other where God has convicted you to plan differently for the year. Finish by praying for the other person to persist in Faith’s works and expectation this year.