

**graceWORKS ! GOING DEEPER<sup>1</sup> The Papou Study Bible** is a daily study provided by me to



help folks explore the depth and joy of the “conneXion” life of God. It’s my personal study, and is not intended as a doctrinal statement or statement of any church or denomination or congregation. It’s also my belief that “grace” works, and the servant of God should always want to go deeper. Multi-tasking as usual, I’m also calling this the “Papou Study Bible.” I’m writing it as if I were speaking to my girls who love me and any descendant they have that love their Papou too. And to anyone who wants to consider me a spiritual Dad or “Papou.” I want them to be able to study the Bible with Papou (grandpa in Greek) after I’m gone---and if they don’t, I’ll haunt them. The Scriptures say it’s noble to “search the Scriptures daily” to verify truth like the ancient Bereans did (Acts 17:11). My folks came from Berea. My incredible Dad (and your grandfather and great grandfather, guys), Vasil Charles Valekis taught me to do this like he did---every day until I die. He taught me and everyone I know to go to church no matter what and to put God first. While Mama (Maria Pagona Stratakis Valekis) never really did this, she made sure we listened to Daddy on this one. She would have hit us with a spatula or frying pan or worse if we didn’t. This is a simple sharing my “daily search.” And I’d like to think it is a continuation of God’s life through my Dad through me. Both my “Dads” by the way. And a way to honor him, mama and our loving “Dad”---God. And for all of us to be together, in Spirit, even when we I join them in heaven. I like to use the Blue Letter literal, very “visual,” Greek translation a lot to help “visualize” these truths the beautiful way Greek enables you to view. And I like to share this with folks serving in an elder capacity, or any capacity, to grow them, challenge them, and stretch them. But especially share it with anyone I’ve ever brought to Christ and family members who truly love me. And when you study these, I’ll make sure to connect with you from heaven. *Ever an orthodox Greek, Jim Valekis*

And I like to share this with folks serving in an elder capacity, or any capacity, to grow them, challenge them, and stretch them. But especially share it with anyone I’ve ever brought to Christ and family members who truly love me. And when you study these, I’ll make sure to connect with you from heaven. *Ever an orthodox Greek, Jim Valekis*



**Christ IN You Series**

**Colossians 1:27 (King James Version)**

<sup>27</sup>To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is *Christ in you*, the hope of glory

**graceWORKS! GOING DEEPER**

**Daniel 7 Part 4<sup>2</sup>**

So we’ve gotten through the four beasts (yet again), and I’m going to skip the drama about who they are and what they will do. I want to get to what God I’m sure considers “the good part.” The part where you and I and Jesus come in. The part when the holy people are given the kingdom, and it’s theirs forever.

Jesus actually said: Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's **good pleasure** to give you the kingdom.

Here is a glimpse of Him actually doing it! Enjoy!

<sup>1</sup> **NOT TO BE REPRODUCED OR UPLOADED TO WEB WITHOUT EXPRESS PERMISSION OF AUTHOR.**

<sup>2</sup> New International Version (NIV) Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. (Author’s note: This translation, and the source for many of the study notes that accompany it, are taken from The NIV Study Bible, Copyright 1985,1995, 2002, 2008, 2011 . These notes are referenced throughout and paraphrased frequently in the notes.)

Daniel 7 New International Version (NIV)

I'll pick up here.

<sup>8</sup>“While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a human being and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

**Again I ask, who is this little “horn.” It is seen in the NIV study bible as the anti-Christ or a world power sharing in the characteristics of the anti-christ. It gives these Scriptures in reference:**

<b>Daniel 11:36</b>	<b>2 Thessalonians 2:4</b>	<b>Revelation 13:5-6</b>
<sup>36</sup> “The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place.	<sup>4</sup> He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God’s temple, proclaiming himself to be God.	<sup>5</sup> The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise its authority for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> It opened its mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven.

**Who could this be (or have been)? There are many takes on this. Antioch Epiphanes. Others, Caligula, and/or other Roman emperors who attempted to set up a statue of himself in the temple and be worshipped. This is nothing new. Even in Daniel 6, only the king was to be “prayed to” and worshipped.**

**Some see him as an end times ruler that will be the final manifestation of evil. Apparently, this is what the early church fathers believed.**

Some would argue that the little horn represents one of the pagan Roman rulers (e.g., Julius Caesar or Vespasian). A great variety of

biblical scholars, however, have forcefully contended that Daniel's little horn and Paul's "man of sin" (2 Thessalonians 2:3ff) appear to represent the same hostile force. This was the general view of the "church fathers" (see Newton, 462, 463), and such has been maintained in modern times. Since the "man of sin" is obviously a part of "the falling away" from the primitive faith, the opposing force would seem to be a **religious** one (see Workman 1988, 414-436).<sup>3</sup>

**There have been many speculations.**

**While it's tempting to associate this little horn with what's come to be known as "the antichrist," (also associated with the beasts of Revelation), neither book uses that phrase to describe the ones being spoken of. Paul doesn't either.**

**John specifically defines the antichrists this way.**

### **1 John 2:18**

<sup>18</sup> Dear children, this is the last hour; and as you have heard that the antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour. <sup>19</sup> They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.

**So whoever they were, "they went out from us." So while there are "many antichrists," the Bible doesn't dogmatically say this "man of sin" is "the" antichrist. Again, let's review what the early church fathers said according to the source referenced below:**

. . .biblical scholars, however, have forcefully contended that Daniel's little horn and Paul's "man of sin" (2 Thessalonians 2:3ff) appear to represent the same hostile force. This was the general view of the "church fathers" (see Newton, 462, 463), and such has been maintained in modern times.

**Either way, this fourth kingdom (begun with the Roman Empire and shown as being at least the "spirit" of all subsequent world rules that have occurred since that time) dominates until this takes place.**

---

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/184-the-little-horn-of-daniels-sea-beast>

<sup>9</sup>“As I looked,  
 “thrones were set in place,  
 and the Ancient of Days took his seat.  
 His clothing was as white as snow;  
 the hair of his head was white like wool.




<sup>14</sup>The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire.

Revelation 1:14 – referring to Jesus. Like Father, like Son!

**The “Ancient of Days” refers to God. This hair color is also spoken of in Revelation.**

His throne was flaming with fire,  
 and its wheels were all ablaze.

**Remember the vision in Ezekiel?**

<b>Ezekiel 1:15-21</b>	<b>Ezekiel 1:26-27</b>
<p><sup>15</sup>As I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel on the ground beside each creature with its four faces. <sup>16</sup>This was the appearance and structure of the wheels: They sparkled like topaz<sup>4</sup>, and all four looked alike. Each appeared to be made like a wheel intersecting a wheel<sup>5</sup>.</p> <div data-bbox="207 1041 407 1297">  </div> <div data-bbox="256 1390 704 1654">  </div>	<p><sup>26</sup>Above the vault over their heads <b>Vault: or “atmosphere.” Likened to the visible arch of the sky</b></p> <div data-bbox="834 995 1089 1268">  </div> <p>was what looked like a throne of lapis lazuli (possibly sapphire<sup>6</sup>), and high above on the throne was a figure like that of a man. <sup>27</sup>I saw that from what appeared to be his waist up he looked like glowing metal, as if full of fire, and that from there down he looked like fire; and brilliant light surrounded him.</p>

<sup>4</sup>ID 10591934© Kettaphoto| Dreamstime.com

<sup>5</sup> Photo 10591934 © Kettaphoto | Dreamstime.com

<sup>66</sup> ID 8695638© Igor Kaliuzhny| Dreamstime.com



<sup>10</sup>A river of fire<sup>7</sup> was flowing,  
coming out from before him.  
Thousands upon thousands attended him;  
ten thousand times ten thousand stood before  
him.

**The NIV study bible says that in Ancient poetic references in this part of the world, "10,000" was the counterpart of "1,000." Not literal numbers as much as poetic ways of contrasting. Like a little kid might say "there was gazillion of things out there." Just a manner of speech.**

The court was seated,  
and the books were  
opened.

**John echoes this language in Revelation.**

<sup>11</sup>"Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. <sup>12</sup>(The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

<sup>12</sup>And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. Rev 20:12

<sup>13</sup>"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man,**The Aramaic phrase "bar enash" means human being.**

coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. <sup>14</sup>He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

**Again, this is obviously referring to Jesus, and to giving the rule back to the people of God. More on this next time.**

---

<sup>7</sup> ID 139926071© Iva Vanurova | Dreamstime.com