

**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*

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**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 9 Part 4<sup>2</sup>**

So I’m so slow. Sorry. But let’s cut to the chase today. I love the prophecies in the Old Testament. I remember wrestling with them as a kid at the age of 14, trying to be assured there was a God and He did exist and He did save. There is! He does exist! He does save. In fact, God doesn’t technically “exist.” The Greek roots for that word means to stand out of “non-existence.” God has always been. So He more than just exists. He is. Enjoy life! He loves you!

<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.)

## Before the beginning of time salvation occurred!



Revelation 13:8 New International Version (NIV)

\* . . . the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.\*

**Finally, let's consider next time the exact prophecy, and what it says that is an astounding proof of biblical prophecy.**

Daniel 9 New International Version (NIV)

**9 Let's pick up where we left off---I'll back up just a bit to give the context.**

<sup>20</sup>While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and making my request to the LORD my God for his holy hill—  
<sup>21</sup>while I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice.

**Twilight. (Exodus 29:38)**

<sup>22</sup>He instructed me and said to me, "Daniel, I have now come to give you insight and understanding.

**The Hebrew word “understanding” comes from a root word that means “to separate mentally.” The word translated insight means “to be circumspect and hence, intelligent.”**

<sup>23</sup>As soon as you began to pray, a word went out, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed.

**Again, I like this concept. The LORD was so attentive to Daniel. That’s the way I hope I am to Him! Someone highly esteemed, and to whom the LORD responds quickly.**

Therefore, consider the word and understand the vision:

<sup>24</sup>“Seventy ‘sevens’<sup>[c]</sup> are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish<sup>[d]</sup> transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the Most Holy Place.<sup>[e]</sup>”

**So in the footnote, by way of reminder, is what we reviewed yesterday, concluding this all took place in Christ, not just at Jerusalem in 33 A.D., but before the foundation of the world!<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>25</sup>“Know and understand this: From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One,<sup>[f]</sup> the ruler, comes, there will be seven ‘sevens,’ and sixty-two ‘sevens.’”

**The time between the decree authorizing the rebuilding of Jerusalem and the coming of the Messiah (“the Anointed One”) will be 69 “sevens” (7 plus 62). That’s a period of 483 years.**

**Following the trail of this NIV study note, it leads us to Ezra 7:11 and the note attached to it.**

**I’ll include that in the table below.**

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<sup>3</sup> The NIV study Bible says “probably seven-year periods of time, making a total of 490 years. Six purposes are mentioned:

1. Finish (or restrain) transgression.
2. Put an end to sin.
3. Atone for wickedness.
4. Bring in everlasting righteousness.
5. Seal up vision and prophecy.
6. And anoint the Most Holy Place.

<b>Ezra 7:11</b>	<b>Study note:</b>
<p><sup>11</sup>This is a copy of the letter King Artaxerxes had given to Ezra the priest, a teacher of the Law, a man learned in matters concerning the commands and decrees of the LORD for Israel:</p>	<p><b>Many regard the letter of Artaxerxes 1 as the beginning point of Daniel’s first 69 “sevens.” Other regard the commission of Nehemiah by the same king as the starting point of this prophecy.<sup>4</sup> By using either the solar calendar with former date (458 B.C.) or a lunar calendar with the latter date (444), one can arrive remarkably close to the date of Jesus public ministry.<sup>5</sup></b></p>

It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble.

**Couldn’t find a reference to this here in NIV, but it does make sense. You can read about the different troubles Ezra and Nehemiah went through to get to the city and get that temple built.**

<sup>26</sup>After the sixty-two ‘sevens,’ the Anointed One will be put to death and will have nothing.<sup>[9]</sup>

**Continuing in the NIV study note. “The “seven” sevens may refer to the time of the complete restoration of Jerusalem (partially narrated in Ezra and Nehemiah) and the “sixty-two sevens” may refer to the**

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<sup>4</sup> Nehemiah 1:1 - 1 The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah:In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa . . . Nehemiah 2:1-8 - 2 In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before, 2 so the king asked me, “Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.” I was very much afraid, 3 but I said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?” 4 The king said to me, “What is it you want?” Then I prayed to the God of heaven, 5 and I answered the king, “If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it.” . . . 8 . . .because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.

<sup>5</sup> A chronology of Jesus typically has the date of the start of his ministry estimated at around AD 27–29 and the end in the range AD 30–36. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry\\_of\\_Jesus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_Jesus)

**period between that restoration and the Messiah's coming to Israel. The final "70<sup>th</sup>" seven is not mentioned specifically until verse 27, following this prophecy.**

The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.

**Thought to be Titus, who destroyed Jerusalem in AD 70.**

**Many hold that the 70<sup>th</sup> seven was fulfilled during Christ's earthly ministry and the years that immediately followed. Others conclude a pause between the 69<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> seven, and other scenarios that call for the rebuilding of the temple. I favor the former approach.**

The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. <sup>27</sup>He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.'<sup>(h)</sup> In the middle of the 'seven'<sup>(i)</sup> he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple<sup>(j)</sup> he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him.<sup>(k)''(l)</sup>

**To me the most important thing is that Christ confirmed the covenant with many for "one" seven---one perfect period of time. I know all the 3 ½ years of Revelation probably fit into this. I'll look at this part more closely next time, and move on.**

**Footnotes:**

- a. **Daniel 9:1** Hebrew *Ahasuerus*
- b. **Daniel 9:1** Or *Chaldean*
- c. **Daniel 9:24** Or 'weeks'; also in verses 25 and 26
- d. **Daniel 9:24** Or *restrain*
- e. **Daniel 9:24** Or *the most holy One*
- f. **Daniel 9:25** Or *an anointed one*; also in verse 26
- g. **Daniel 9:26** Or *death and will have no one*; or *death, but not for himself*
- h. **Daniel 9:27** Or 'week'
- i. **Daniel 9:27** Or 'week'
- j. **Daniel 9:27** Septuagint and Theodotion; Hebrew *wing*
- k. **Daniel 9:27** Or *it*
- l. **Daniel 9:27** Or *And one who causes desolation will come upon the wing of the abominable temple, until the end that is decreed is poured out on the desolated city*