

graceWORKS ! GOING DEEPER¹ 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*

ChristINYouSeries

Colossians 1:27 (King James Version)

²⁷To 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

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SPECIAL FOCUS STUDY – “THE LORD’S SUPPER”² **HOLY THURSDAY**

It was on this Day that the Disciples come to Him and ask Him where He wanted them to make preparations for Him to eat the Passover. The Passover, of course, was the memorial service instituted when Israel escaped from the land of Egypt. The death angel came through the land and killed the firstborn---the Israelites put the blood of a lamb on their door posts and lintels, and where spared. They came “under the blood”--and they were saved. Just like Jesus was anointed for His funeral before His death, He was going to eat the Passover “beforehand” as well. The Jews wouldn’t slay the lamb until twilight the next day---at the very time, Christ died. This wasn’t a coincidence, by the way. Christ ate the Passover. Then became it! He instituted what we’ve come to call the Eucharist, the meal of thanksgiving, Christ, our Passover.

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² 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.



14 The Last Supper

¹²On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

⁸Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." Luke 22:8

According to Luke 22:8 it was Peter and John who said this.

¹³So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. ¹⁴Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' ¹⁵He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready.

The Greek word for "furnished and ready" is something like "with places having been spread." It means to spread a couch or carpet.

Make preparations for us there."

Now this is interesting. The NIV says that it was customary that anyone in Jerusalem who had a guest room would give it upon request to pilgrims who were there to celebrate the Passover. For the first time this year I noticed that Christ told them to say where "my" guest room. The NIV says apparently Jesus had made previous arrangements with the owner of the house. It has been speculated that the guest room may have been in the house of Mary, the mother of John, also called Mark. The disciples perhaps stayed in that room (or a similar one) after Jesus death and while they were awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit.

¹²When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying. Acts 12

¹³When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. Acts 1:13

¹⁶The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the

Passover.

This would have included obtaining the food for the meal, such as the unleavened bread, wine, bitter herbs and a lamb.

¹⁷When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve.

I guess that even though Peter and John coordinated the arrangements, they left the details to others. Acts indicates there were 120 believers with the apostles after the resurrection and before Pentecost (Acts 1:15).

¹⁸While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me—one who is eating with me."

That had to be hard. I think the community that Christ had built in such a Trinitarian way made such a betrayal deeply hurtful. I think His love for Judas was deeply a part of this picture---for Him to say what He's about to say about Judas in the next verses ("it would be better if he had not been born") was profoundly saddening to Jesus.

The disciples were deeply saddened. And in a sense, they had been perhaps taught by Jesus to be humble. "Not me?" they queried. "Surely you don't mean me!"

¹⁹They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?"

²⁰"It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me.

That was bomb that was dropped. And proof that more than just the 12 were there, because He distinguishes the 12. The 12 were at the Table with Him. They dipped in His bowl. They were in a special relationship with Him. But imagine them going around the whole room wondering "Was it I?" It could have been Jesus' whole family, the apostle's families, and the women

CLV Lk 8:1 - Lk 8:3

1 And it occurred ^{~i} consecutively, He ^l also traverses city ^{ac} by city and village by village, heralding and bringing the evangel [~] of the kingdom of ^o God, and together with Him the twelve,
2 and ^o some women who were ^o cured [~] of wicked spirits and infirmities: Mary, ^o called [~] Magdalene, from whom seven demons had come out,
3 and Joanna, wife of Chuza, Herod's manager, and Susanna and the many ^d others who ^o dispensed (Greek were "served through") to Him out of their ^o possessions.

who had been cured by Him and attended to His needs.

The NIV adds this, actually in a not about Matthew 26:33:

“To dip” into the bowl with someone speaks to the custom of taking a piece of bread, or a piece of meat wrapped in bread, and dip it into a bowl of sauce (made of stewed fruit) on the table. In that culture, to eat with a person is tantamount to saying “I am your friend and I will not hurt you.”

⁹ Even my close friend,
someone I trusted,
one who shared my bread,
has turned^[a] against me.

Psalm 41:9

That made Judas’s dead all the more despicable.

²¹The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.”

What a strong statement. It was better if he had not been born. I’m sure that deeply saddened Jesus---not just His betrayal, but His fate.

²²While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take it; this is my body.”

The word used here indicates he “blessed” the bread and then broke it.

²³Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

The word for given thanks is “eucharist-eo.” It’s the word from which derive the word “Eucharist.”

²⁴“This is my blood of the^[c] covenant, which is poured out for many,” he said to them. ²⁵“Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

²⁶When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

A lot of details provided in other gospels are left out. One is that the disciples argued who is the greatest. The other is that Jesus washed the disciples feet that night, perhaps in response to that argument. He taught them the one who is greatest is the one who serves.

After the announcement by Jesus that one of them would betray Him, it records a dispute broke out as to who was the greatest.

Below I'll record Jesus' verbal response. Then his response in action, showing them how to serve.

Luke 22	John 13
<p>⁴A dispute also arose among them as to which of them was considered to be greatest. ²⁵Jesus said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who exercise authority over them call themselves Benefactors. ²⁶But you are not to be like that. Instead, the greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. ²⁷For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves. ²⁸You are those who have stood by me in my trials. ²⁹And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, ³⁰so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.</p>	<p>It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.</p> <p>²The evening meal was in progress, and the devil had already prompted Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, to betray Jesus. ³Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; ⁴so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. ⁵After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him.</p> <p>⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"</p> <p>⁷Jesus replied, "You do not realize ("get") now what I am doing, but later you will understand."</p> <p>⁸"No," said Peter, "you shall never</p>

wash my feet.”

Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.”

⁹“Then, Lord,” Simon Peter replied, “not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!”

¹⁰Jesus answered, “Those who have had a bath need only to wash their feet; their whole body is clean. And you are clean, though not every one of you.”

¹¹For he knew who was going to betray him, and that was why he said not every one was clean.

¹²When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. “Do you understand what I have done for you?” he asked them. ¹³“You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

What a response! We’ll share more at our At the Cross Service.