

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*

Christ IN You Series

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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Hosea 1 Part 1²



So we’re getting into a new book---the book of Hosea. According to the NIV study bible, he prophesied about the middle of the eighth century BC. Israel was on the verge of being conquered by Assyria. Isaiah prophesied through the tragic last days of this kingdom, and prophesied about 38 years.

The days were tragic days. Four of the kings that reigned in his time were murdered by the successors. Only one was succeeded on his throne by his son. God even has Hosea engage in some difficult personal acts---he ordered Hosea to marry a promiscuous woman to depict Israel’s unfaithfulness to the Lord.

It should be a fascinating read. Enjoy.

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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.)

Hosea 1 New International Version (NIV)

1 The word of the LORD that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash^[a] king of Israel:

Key things to note:

1. The word of the LORD – this isn't just something Hosea came up with.

2. The name Hosea – it means "salvation."

3. Here's an overview of the rulers mentioned, and the dates of their rule as the NIV study bible shares.

RULERS OF JUDAH

Uzziah	Jotham	Ahaz	Hezekiah
792 – 740 B.C.	750-732 B.C	735 – 715 B.C.	729-686 B.C.

RULER OF ISRAEL

Jerobaoam II
793 BC – 753 BC

Hosea was a contemporary of Isaiah, Amos and Micah. Each of them have similar openings, using either "the vision of" or the "word of" to introduce their writings.

The first thing that happens is a challenge to some---Hosea has to marry a promiscuous woman

Hosea's Wife and Children

²When the LORD began to speak through Hosea,

The LORD spoke "through" Hosea. The literal says "the word of YAHWEH by Hosea." It also says "The starting point of the word of YAHWEH by Hosea."

the LORD said to him, "Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to

the LORD.”³ So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

Wow. To think that God would dare have you do something like this! And to think someone would actually obey it.

I only ask that question in jest, because God is God and has the right to do whatever he wants.

And apparently He wants to illustrate Israel’s lack of faithfulness to Him, which throughout the Bible is considered “promiscuity” and unfaithfulness.

This is the one great sin that the LORD accuses Israel of throughout the book of Hosea.

Romans 9

²⁰But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? “Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, ‘Why did you make me like this?’”^[h] ²¹Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?

Exodus 34:15 New International Version
¹⁵ “Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land; for when they prostitute themselves to their gods and sacrifice to them, they will invite you and you will eat their sacrifices.

Now this needs to be focused on, so I will follow the NIV Bible’s study note sections and the Scriptures it lists to explain this concept.

First, according to a related metaphor, the LORD became the “husband” of Israel, with all that implied in the ancient social world.

Here are several sets of Scriptures that affirm tht.

Isaiah 54:5-6	Jeremiah 3:14	Jeremiah 31:32	Hosea 2:2,7, 16
⁵ For your Maker is your husband—the LORD Almighty is his name—the Holy One of	¹⁴ “Return, faithless people,” declares the LORD, “for I am your husband. I will	³² It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors	² “Rebuke your mother, rebuke her, for she is not my wife,

<p>Israel is your Redeemer; he is called the God of all the earth. ⁶The LORD will call you back as if you were a wife deserted and distressed in spirit— a wife who married young, only to be rejected,” says your God.</p>	<p>choose you—one from a town and two from a clan—and bring you to Zion.</p>	<p>when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them declares the LORD.</p>	<p>and I am not her husband. Let her remove the adulterous look from her face and the unfaithfulness from between her breasts. She will chase after her lovers but not catch them; she will look for them but not find them. Then she will say, ‘I will go back to my husband as at first, for then I was better off than now.’ “In that day,” declares the LORD, “you will call me ‘my husband’; you will no longer call me ‘my master.’^{[d]’}</p>
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I could probably cover more of these Scriptures, but that gets the general idea across. But notice something here---the last Scripture in the last column is interesting.

The word for "master" is literally taken from "Baal" and means "possessor of me."

The word for husband is "man" of me.

God is our husband, but He doesn't just "own" us.

Husband	"Master"
<p>H376 'iysh eesh</p> <p>contracted for H582 (or perhaps rather from an unused root meaning to be extant);</p> <p>a man as an individual or a male person; often used as an adjunct to a more definite term (and in such cases frequently not expressed in translation).</p>	<p>H1180 Ba`aliy bah-al-ee'</p> <p>from H1167 with pron. suff.;</p> <p>my master; Baali, a symbolical name for Jehovah.</p>

Ok. This starts us off. Now we'll get into the messages sent next time.

STILL TO BE COVERED:

⁴Then the LORD said to Hosea, "Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel. ⁵In that day I will break Israel's bow in the Valley of Jezreel."

⁶Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the LORD said to Hosea, "Call her Lo-Ruhamah (which means "not loved"), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them. ⁷Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the LORD their God, will save them."

⁸After she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, Gomer had another son. ⁹Then the LORD said, "Call him Lo-Ammi (which means "not my people"), for you are not my people, and I am not your God.^[b]

¹⁰"Yet the Israelites will be like the sand on the seashore, which cannot be measured or counted. In the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'children of the living God.' ¹¹The people of Judah and the people of Israel will come together; they will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.^[c]

Footnotes:

- a. **Hosea 1:1** Hebrew *Joash*, a variant of *Jehoash*
- b. **Hosea 1:9** Or *your I AM*
- c. **Hosea 1:11** In Hebrew texts 1:10,11 is numbered 2:1,2.