

**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*

**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

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**Hosea 2 Part 2<sup>2</sup>**



So sometimes you miss things going through the Scripture. And as I listened again to Hosea 2, I saw boat loads of things I missed!

There are subtleties in God’s word that go way beyond the initial message given. It gives us so much understanding of God’s Word, but more than that, of His thoughts, His feelings, His joys, His angers, and His preferences. I want to savor God’s word for those things, so I’m going back into it again and comment on things I missed after listening to it deeply again.

Let’s jump in deeper again today. Enjoy.

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

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*Psalm 116:5 The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.*

*Psalm 119:77 Let your compassion come to me that I may live, for your law is my delight.*

*Psalm 145:8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.*

*Psalm 145:9 The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.*

*Isaiah 49:15 "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you!*

*Matthew 9:36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.*

*2 Corinthians 1:3 [ Praise to the God of All Comfort ] Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of all compassion and the God of all comfort,*

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### **James 5:11**

As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of **compassion** and mercy.

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Hosea 2 New International Version (NIV)

**2** <sup>[a]</sup> "Say of your brothers, 'My people,' and of your sisters, 'My loved one.'

**It stands out again. God was mad at His people, justifiably. But He couldn't stay mad!**

## Israel Punished and Restored

<sup>2</sup> "Rebuke your mother, rebuke her, for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband.

**Here is something I didn't see yesterday. The "Father" here is telling the children to "rebuke" their mother. While we are to honor our parents, in this case it was legitimate for the "children" to call the parents out---with love and respect, I assume. That's how Paul told Timothy to deal with elders in the church.**

### **1 Timothy 5:1**

Do not rebuke an **older** man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger **men** as brothers,

Let her remove the adulterous look from her face and the unfaithfulness from between her breasts.

<sup>3</sup> Otherwise I will strip her naked and make her as bare as on the day she was born; I will make her like a desert, turn her into a parched land, and slay her with thirst.

<sup>4</sup> I will not show my love to her children, because they are the children of adultery.

<sup>5</sup> Their mother has been unfaithful and has conceived them in disgrace. She said, 'I will go after my lovers,

who give me my food and my water,  
my wool and my linen, my olive oil and my drink.'

**Why was Israel always trading in the One True God for other so called "gods"? To me that's proof there is something more to the God of the Bible than just something people made up! We try to avoid Him so much, yet we know He's right! That speaks to a lot!**

<sup>6</sup>Therefore I will block her path with thornbushes;  
I will wall her in so that she cannot find her way.

**Ever have a day like that? Maybe God is trying to tell you something!**

<sup>7</sup>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.'

<sup>8</sup>She has not acknowledged that I was the one  
who gave her the grain, the new wine and oil,  
who lavished on her the silver and gold—  
which they used for Baal.

**Why did Israel prefer "Baal" to the One True Real God? What was it about "Baal" that was so compelling? Perhaps he, being created in their minds and backed by Satan, appealed to something "fleshly" in them in a more animal like way. Paul was clear about this---the gods of this world are "demons" and "dead."**

<b>Dt 4:28</b>	<b>1 Cor 10:20</b>
<sup>28</sup> There you will worship man-made gods of wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or eat or smell.	<sup>20</sup> No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons.

<sup>9</sup>"Therefore I will take away my grain when it ripens, and my new wine when it is ready. I will take back my wool and my linen, intended to cover her naked body.

<sup>10</sup>So now I will expose her lewdness  
before the eyes of her lovers;

**Lewdness is a really graphic term in the Hebrew.**

no one will take her out of my hands.

<sup>11</sup>I will stop all her celebrations:  
her yearly festivals, her New Moons,  
her Sabbath days—all her appointed festivals.

**In spite of her adulteries, she was still keeping Holy Days and Sabbaths.**

<sup>12</sup>I will ruin her vines and her fig trees,  
which she said were her pay from her lovers;  
I will make them a thicket,  
and wild animals will devour them.

<sup>13</sup>I will punish her for the days  
she burned incense to the Baals;  
she decked herself with rings and jewelry,  
and went after her lovers,  
but me she forgot,"

declares the LORD.

**I like the way the LORD speaks here.**

<sup>14</sup>"Therefore I am now going **to allure her**;

**Hebrew: "entice" here**

I will lead her into the wilderness  
and speak tenderly to her.

**Hebrew: "speak to her heart"**

<sup>15</sup>There I will give her back her vineyards,  
and will make the Valley of Achor<sup>(b)</sup> a door of hope.

**Achor means "trouble." He will turn her "valley" of trouble into a "door" of hope!**

There she will respond<sup>(c)</sup> **(or "sing")** as in the days of her youth,

**She will sing. She will be happy and joyful again. Her husband will make her sing.**

as in the day she came up out of Egypt.

<sup>16</sup>"In that day," declares the LORD,  
"you will call me 'my husband';

**Simply, "my man."**

you will no longer call me 'my master.<sup>[d]</sup>'

**Husbands were "owners" of their wives. In Hebrew, the word meant "My Possessor."**

<sup>17</sup>I will remove the names of the Baals from her lips; no longer will their names be invoked.

**She will move the approaches of the "Baals" from her lips!**

<sup>18</sup>In that day I will make a covenant for them  
with the beasts of the field, the birds in the sky  
and the creatures that move along the ground.

**We are interrelated and interconnected. With the fields and the birds and the creatures. Creation is so beautiful**

Bow and sword and battle I will abolish from the land, so that all may lie down in safety.

**God wants us to have safety and peace and not fear.**

<sup>19</sup>I will betroth you to me **forever**;  
I will betroth you **in<sup>[e]</sup> righteousness and justice,**  
**in<sup>[f]</sup> love and compassion.**

<sup>20</sup>I will betroth you **in<sup>[g]</sup> faithfulness,**  
and you will **acknowledge** the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>"In that day **I will respond,**"  
declares the LORD—

**"I will respond** to the skies,  
and they will respond to the earth;

<sup>22</sup>and the earth will respond to the grain,  
the new wine and the olive oil,  
and they will respond to Jezreel.<sup>[h]</sup>

<sup>23</sup>**I will plant her** for myself in the land;  
**I will show my love to the one I called 'Not my  
loved one.'<sup>[i]</sup>**

**I will say to those called 'Not my people,'<sup>[j]</sup> 'You are  
my people';**

and they will say, 'You are my God.'"

**You are the One I love! You are my God! That's what  
Thomas said to Jesus.**

"Forever" (owlam) -  
concealed, i.e. the vanishing  
point; generally, time out of  
mind (past or future), i.e.  
(practically) eternity

Betroth – engage for  
matrimony

Faithfulness – The Hebrew  
word for this means "literally  
firmness; figuratively security;  
morally fidelity"

**Acknowledge – to "know"---  
to really "know, that God is  
Lord!**

God will "respond." And  
create a cascade of  
responsiveness---God to skies,  
skies to earth to the grain,  
new wine, olive oil.

God will "plant" her. to sow;  
figuratively, to disseminate,  
plant, fructify.

## "My Lord, My God" (John 20:28)

### Footnotes:

- a. **Hosea 2:1** In Hebrew texts 2:1-23 is numbered 2:3-25.
- b. **Hosea 2:15** *Achor* means *trouble*.
- c. **Hosea 2:15** Or *sing*
- d. **Hosea 2:16** Hebrew *baal*
- e. **Hosea 2:19** Or *with*
- f. **Hosea 2:19** Or *with*
- g. **Hosea 2:20** Or *with*
- h. **Hosea 2:22** *Jezreel* means *God plants*.
- i. **Hosea 2:23** Hebrew *Lo-Ruhamah* (see 1:6)
- j. **Hosea 2:23** Hebrew *Lo-Ammi* (see 1:9)

John 20:27-28 New  
International Version (NIV)

<sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

<sup>28</sup>Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"