

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 4 Part 2²



A “whirlwind” will sweep them away, the prophet said. “Their sacrifices will bring them shame.” That’s how we ended chapter 4.

What is it about humanity that wants to worship God, and yet continue to “commit adultery” against Him? It’s like we want “have our sin cake, and eat it too.” We want our way!

“The Israelites are a stubborn, like a stubborn heifer,” He said. “How can I pasture them like lambs in a meadow?” The Good Shepherd wants to pasture us. The “Mother Hen” wants to shelter us under her wings. Let’s dig in.

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Hosea 5 New International Version (NIV)

5 "Hear this, you priests! Pay attention, you Israelites! Listen, royal house!

Note: Three groups are addressed as being responsible for maintaining justice, but it miscarried at their hands:

- **Priests**
- **Israelites**
- **Royal house**

This judgment is against you:

You have been a snare at Mizpah,
a net spread out on Tabor.

Snares and nets are devices for capturing animals and birds. These are used as metaphors for those who by economic and legal schemes took cruel advantage of innocent people.

Job 18:8-10	Psalms 140:5	Proverbs 29:5-6	Lamentations 1:13
⁸ His feet thrust him into a net; he wanders into its mesh. ⁹ A trap seizes him by the heel; a snare holds him fast. ¹⁰ A noose is hidden for him on the ground; a trap lies in his path.	⁵ The arrogant have hidden a snare for me; they have spread out the cords of their net and have set traps for me along my path.	⁵ Those who flatter their neighbors are spreading nets for their feet. ⁶ Evildoers are snared by their own sin, but the righteous shout for joy and are glad.	¹³ "From on high he sent fire, sent it down into my bones. He spread a net for my feet and turned me back. He made me desolate, faint all the day long.

The NIV study bible doesn't know why Mizpeh and Tabor in particular, are mentioned. It's presumed the reference must be to some well-known events that illustrated Israel's corruption.

²The rebels are knee-deep in slaughter. I will discipline all of them.

The NIV focuses on the word "discipline."

Here is the way the CLV translates it. Again, this is a translation from the Interlinear Scripture Analyzer that gives me translations of the actual Hebrew and Greek.

CLV) Ho 5:2

+ The swervers deepen the ~pit~, +Yet I am the Discipliner for them all.

That translation opens up some interesting possibilities. What's a "server"? Here's the Hebrew word:

H7846 set sayte

from **H7750**; a departure from right, i.e. sin.

Ah, I get it. A "swerver" is one who "departs from the right." Is that the same as a "rebel"? To rebel implies an assertive insolence to me, an impudence, or an intentionality. I wonder if a swerver is simply someone who has "drifted away," like this Scripture says.

Hebrews 2

Hebrews 2 New International Version (NIV)

Warning to Pay Attention

2 We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. . .

The Greek word used cognates as "beside-gushing" and implies:

G3901 pararrhuego par-ar-hroo-eh'-o

from **G3844** and the alternate of **G4482**;

to flow by, i.e. (figuratively) carelessly pass (miss).

Not let's look at the word for "discipliner."

H4148 muwcar moo-sawr'

from **H3256**;

properly, chastisement; figuratively, reproof, warning or instruction; also restraint.

³I know all about Ephraim; Israel is not hidden from me.
Ephraim, you have now turned to prostitution;
Israel is corrupt.

God's corrective action against His people is seen as discipline, and it's a significant word in the prophets.

Isaiah 26:16	Jeremiah 2:30	Jeremiah 5:3	Jeremiah 7:28
<p>¹⁶LORD, they came to you in their distress; when you disciplined them, they could barely whisper a prayer.</p>	<p>³⁰“In vain I punished your people; they did not respond to correction. Your sword has devoured your prophets like a ravenous lion.</p>	<p>³LORD, do not your eyes look for truth? You struck them, but they felt no pain; you crushed them, but they refused correction. They made their faces harder than stone and refused to repent.</p>	<p>²⁸Therefore say to them, ‘This is the nation that has not obeyed the LORD its God or responded to correction. Truth has perished; it has vanished from their lips.</p>

⁴“Their deeds do not permit them to return to their God.
A spirit of prostitution is in their heart;
they do not acknowledge the LORD.

They want "religion," maybe, but they don't want God.

⁵Israel's arrogance testifies against them;
the Israelites, even Ephraim, stumble in their sin;
Judah also stumbles with them.

⁶When they go with their flocks and herds
to seek the LORD,
they will not find him;
he has withdrawn himself from them.

⁷They are unfaithful to the LORD;
they give birth to illegitimate children.

**God wants us to acknowledge Him. We have to acknowledge Him.
He's made us that way---to find Him and to acknowledge Him.**

When they celebrate their New Moon feasts,
he will devour^[a] their fields.

**Interesting. They were continuing their religious behavior. But were
still prostituting themselves to other gods.**

Interesting.

⁸"Sound the trumpet in Gibeah,
the horn in Ramah.
Raise the battle cry in Beth Aven^[b];
lead on, Benjamin.

⁹Ephraim will be laid waste
on the day of reckoning.

Among the tribes of Israel
I proclaim what is certain.

¹⁰Judah's leaders are like those
who move boundary stones.

**Again, this concept of not accepting the LORD's assignment for you.
Boy, do we move boundary stones in this day and age---marriage,
gender, honor, respect---we pay no heed to boundary stones God
has put in place for us.**

I will pour out my wrath on them
like a flood of water.

¹¹Ephraim is oppressed,
trampled in judgment,
intent on pursuing idols.^[c]

Intent! Stubbornly determined!

¹²I am like a moth to Ephraim,
like rot to the people of Judah.

Both of these consume. God was set against them---but for their good!

¹³"When Ephraim saw his sickness,
and Judah his sores,
then Ephraim turned to Assyria,
and sent to the great king for help.

But he is not able to cure you,
not able to heal your sores.

¹⁴For I will be like a lion to Ephraim,
like a great lion to Judah.

I will tear them to pieces and go away;
I will carry them off, with no one to rescue them.

Why? He tells why in the next verse.

¹⁵Then I will return to my lair
until they have borne their guilt
and seek my face—

in their misery
they will earnestly seek me."

This is what God wants---for us to bear our guilt, and seek His face. To earnestly seek Him, even if we have to suffer some misery to do so!

Footnotes:

- a. **Hosea 5:7** Or *Now their New Moon feasts / will devour them and*
- b. **Hosea 5:8** *Beth Aven* means *house of wickedness* (a derogatory name for Bethel, which means *house of God*).
- c. **Hosea 5:11** The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.

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