

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 6²



More great phrases emerge from this book. One in particular is this one:

“Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge Him. As sure as the sun arises, He will appear; He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.” (Hos3ea 6:4)

Our God couldn’t be more dependable.

Let’s dig in, and see where He takes us today!

¹ **NOT TO BE REPRODUCED OR UPLOADED TO WEB WITHOUT EXPRESS PERMISSION OF AUTHOR.**

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Israel Unrepentant

6 “Come, let us return to the LORD.

He has torn us to pieces

but he will heal us;

he has injured us

but he will bind up our wounds.

In this understanding of repentance, Israel acknowledges that God, no Assyria (cf. 5:13) was the true physician (7:1).

Hosea 5:13	Hosea 7:1
<p>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.</p>	<p>¹ whenever I would heal Israel, the sins of Ephraim are exposed and the crimes of Samaria revealed. They practice deceit, thieves break into houses, bandits rob in the streets;</p>

²After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will restore us,
that we may live in his presence.

This is symbolic of a brief time. It’s interesting that Christ rose on the third day.

³Let us acknowledge the LORD;

Acknowledging the LORD is a key concept in Hosea.

7:6	Hosea 2:20	Hosea 4:1	Hosea 4:6	Hosea 5:4
<p>⁶For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God</p>	<p>²⁰I will betroth you in^[a] faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the LORD.</p>	<p>Hear the word of the LORD, you Israelites,</p>	<p>“There is no faithfulness, no love, no acknowledgment</p>	<p>“Their deeds do not permit them to return to their God. A spirit of prostitution is in</p>

rather than burnt offerings.		because the LORD has a charge to bring against you who live in the land:	ent of God in the land.	their heart; they do not acknowledge the LORD.
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let us press on to acknowledge him.

Alternate translations say "let us *strive* to acknowledge Him." Here is the more literal translation I like to use:

H7291 radaph raw-daf'

a primitive root;

to run after (usually with hostile intent; figuratively (of time) gone by).

To run after the LORD is what is being visualized here.

As surely as the sun rises,
 he will appear;
 he will come to us like the winter rains,
 like the spring rains that water the earth."

Hosea believed that just like the seasonal rains come, God's favor would return and restore her.

⁴"What can I do with you, Ephraim? What can I do with you, Judah?
 Your love is like the morning mist, like the early dew that disappears.

Just like the dew and mist evaporate, their lives perished when the sun came out. Sounds like those seeds spoken of in Matthew 13 that had no root.

Matthew 13

²⁰The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away.

There was no depth to their lives. When it got "hot" (symbolic of trouble or persecution) the "mist" evaporated.

⁵Therefore I cut you in pieces with my prophets,
I killed you with the words of my mouth—
then my judgments go forth like the sun.^[a]

I find this interesting and make this association. Remember how in Revelation Jesus has a sword coming out of His mouth? Maybe that is what is symbolized here.

⁶For I desire mercy, not sacrifice,
and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.

The Hebrew word for mercy is "hesed," word that can refer to right conduct toward one's neighbor or loyalty to the LORD or both.

Hebrew for "hesed:"

H2617 checed kheh'-sed

kindness; by implication (towards God) piety: rarely (by opposition) reproof, or (subject.) beauty.

In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his **mouth** was a sharp, double-edged **sword**. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. **Revelation 1:16**

Repent therefore!
Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the **sword** of my **mouth**.
Revelation 2:16

Coming out of his **mouth** is a sharp **sword** with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty.
Revelation 19:15

Here's how Vines Expository Dictionary of Words describes it:³

In general, one may identify three basic meanings of the word, which always interact: "strength," "steadfastness," and "love." Any understanding of the word that fails to suggest all three inevitably loses some of its richness. "Love" by itself easily becomes sentimentalized or universalized apart from the covenant. Yet "strength" or "steadfastness" suggests only the fulfillment of a legal or other obligation.

*The word refers primarily to mutual and reciprocal rights and obligations between the parties of a relationship (especially Yahweh and Israel). But **checed** is not only a matter of obligation; it is also of generosity. It is not only a matter of loyalty, but also of mercy. The weaker party seeks the protection and blessing of the patron and protector, but he may not lay absolute claim to it. The stronger party remains committed to his promise, but retains his freedom, especially with regard to the manner in which he will implement those promises. **Checed** implies personal involvement and commitment in a relationship beyond the rule of law.*

⁷As at Adam,^[b] they have broken the covenant;
they were unfaithful to me there.

Adam is the name of the first man, and also a place in Palestine. The NIV study bible doesn't quite know what to do with this verse, since they see no sign of a covenant being made with Adam. But to me creation was a covenant---a covenant of grace!

⁸Gilead is a city of evildoers,
stained with footprints of blood.

⁹As marauders lie in ambush for a victim,
so do bands of priests;
they murder on the road to Shechem,
carrying out their wicked schemes.

¹⁰I have seen a horrible thing in Israel:
There Ephraim is given to prostitution,
Israel is defiled.

¹¹"Also for you, Judah,
a harvest is appointed. **(Figurative of God's judgments.)**

"Whenever I would restore the fortunes of my people,
Or "reverse back to the starting point" the fortunes of my people.
We'll continue in Hosea 8.

Hosea 6:5 The meaning of the Hebrew for this line is uncertain. **Hosea 6:7** Or *Like Adam*; or *Like human beings*

³ <https://billeliff.org/blogs/news/checed>