

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 13 Part 1 ²



So the weekend is over and I’m back in Hosea. I usually reserve the weekends for studying whatever we’re studying at church. Friday through Sunday, it’s prep time for church and actual execution of the worship day!

But Monday through Thursday is in the Word, these days “From the Ground Up.” I hope to finish a once-through of the whole bible. And then I want to write or create a TIV version of the Bible---the Trinitarian Incarnational “Message” version of the Bible. It will be about sightings of the Trinity and the truth of Christ in the Scriptures, from Genesis to Revelation. So, let’s dive back in. I sincerely believe no one is reading these. But for some reason I think they will, some day. Maybe God, or some loved one in heaven is. Enjoy!

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

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 13 New International Version (NIV)

13 When Ephraim spoke, people trembled;
 he was exalted in Israel.
 But he became guilty of Baal worship and died.

God had promised Ephraim would become great.

Genesis 48

¹⁷When Joseph saw his father placing his right hand on Ephraim’s head he was displeased; so he took hold of his father’s hand to move it from Ephraim’s head to Manasseh’s head. ¹⁸Joseph said to him, “No, my father, this one is the firstborn; put your right hand on his head.” ¹⁹But his father refused and said, “I know, my son, I know. He too will become a people, and he too will become great. Nevertheless, his younger brother (Ephraim) will be greater than he, and his descendants will become a group of nations.”

Ephraim did become a powerful tribe.

| Judges 8:1-3 | Judges 12:1-6 | 1 Samuel 1:1-4 |
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| <p>Now the Ephraimites asked Gideon, “Why have you treated us like this? Why didn’t you call us when you went to fight Midian?” And they challenged him vigorously.</p> <p>²But he answered them, “What have I accomplished compared to you? Aren’t the gleanings of Ephraim’s grapes better than the full grape harvest of Abiezer? ³God gave Oreb and Zeeb, the Midianite leaders, into your hands. What was I able to do compared to you?” At this, their resentment against him subsided.</p> | <p>The Ephraimite forces were called out, and they crossed over to Zaphon. They said to Jephthah, “Why did you go to fight the Ammonites without calling us to go with you? We’re going to burn down your house over your head.”</p> <p>²Jephthah answered, “I and my people were engaged in a great struggle with the Ammonites, and although I called, you didn’t save me out of their hands. ³When I saw that you wouldn’t help, I took my life in my hands and crossed over to fight the Ammonites, and</p> | <p>1 There was a certain man from Ramathaim, a Zuphite^a from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. ^bHe had two wives; one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.</p> <p>^cYear after year this man went up from his town to worship and sacrifice to the LORD Almighty at Shiloh, where Hophni and Phinehas, the two sons of Eli, were priests of the LORD. ^dWhenever the day came for Elkanah to sacrifice, he would</p> |

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| | <p>the LORD gave me the victory over them. Now why have you come up today to fight me?"</p> <p>⁴Jephthah then called together the men of Gilead and fought against Ephraim. The Gileadites struck them down because the Ephraimites had said, "You Gileadites are renegades from Ephraim and Manasseh." ⁵The Gileadites captured the fords of the Jordan leading to Ephraim, and whenever a survivor of Ephraim said, "Let me cross over," the men of Gilead asked him, "Are you an Ephraimite?" If he replied, "No," ⁶they said, "All right, say 'Shibboleth.'" If he said, "Sibboleth," because he could not pronounce the word correctly, they seized him and killed him at the fords of the Jordan. Forty-two thousand Ephraimites were killed at that time.</p> | <p>give portions of the meat to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters.</p> |
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In addition to Samuel, Joshua came from them and so did Jeroboam 1.

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| Numbers 13:8 | 1 Kings 11:26 |
| from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea son of Nun; | ²⁶ Also, Jeroboam son of Nebat rebelled against the king. He was one of Solomon's officials, an Ephraimite from Zeredah, and his mother was a widow named Zeruah. |

²Now they sin more and more;
they make idols for themselves from their silver,
cleverly fashioned images,
all of them the work of craftsmen.
It is said of these people,
“They offer human sacrifices!
They kiss calf-idols!”

They sin more and more. The Bible is adamantly against making graven images of God. And again, here again are the calf idols. I remember learning that the Israelites and ancients bought into the concept that the idols symbolized creatures the “invisible” deity stood on. Why did the people like the human made images of God rather than content themselves with being “God’s image?”
Genesis 1:26 – Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.

³Therefore they will be like the morning mist,
like the early dew that disappears,
like chaff swirling from a threshing floor,
like smoke escaping through a window.

Such human made “religion” disappears after a point.

⁴“But I have been the LORD your God
ever since you came out of Egypt.
You shall acknowledge no God but me,
no Savior except me.

God means this. He will be acknowledged. He will wrestle with us till we do. But He will be acknowledged as God, and Savior, with no other being God and Savior except for Him.

⁵I cared for you in the wilderness,
in the land of burning heat.

⁶When I fed them, they were satisfied;
when they were satisfied, they became proud;
then they forgot me.

So typical. Just like Adam and Eve. They loved the garden of Eden. They just didn’t necessarily want the God that came with it.

⁷So I will be like a lion to them,
like a leopard I will lurk by the path.

⁸Like a bear robbed of her cubs,
I will attack them and rip them open;
like a lion I will devour them—
a wild animal will tear them apart.

That actually happened just his weekend. A lion attacked its trainer.

A lion seeks to attack us! But God always protects us from him.

1 Peter 5:8

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the **devil** prowls around like a roaring **lion** looking for someone to devour.



lion in hiding dreamstime_m_45330961.jpg