

**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  
**graceWORKS! GOING DEEPER**

**Joel – Introduction Part 2<sup>2</sup>**



I’m looking forward to the metaphors and visuals in this book. It includes some calls to fasting and repentance, as well as a rousing promise for complete restoration.

It even includes a promise of the Holy Spirit, that the early church took to mean the original promise fulfilled when Jesus ascended to heaven and the church was founded.



I’m going to continue tracking with the intro in the NIV study Bible. Enjoy!

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.)

The Study Bible brings up the reference to the “Day of the LORD” in this book. I’m going to press that a bit in today’s study.

**I looked up the reference to the Day of the LORD, and this is what it says.**

**First it references these Scriptures. A commonality is the “day of the LORD” is referred to “that day.”**

<b>Isa 2:11</b>	<b>Isa 2:17</b>	<b>Isa 2:20</b>	<b>Isa 10:20</b>	<b>Isa 10:27</b>	<b>Am 5:18</b>
<p><sup>11</sup>The eyes of the arrogant will be humbled and human pride brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted in</p> <p><b>that day.</b></p> <p><b>Comment: The Day of the Lord is sometimes referred to as “that day.”</b></p>	<p><sup>17</sup>The arrogance of man will be brought low and human pride humbled; the LORD alone will be exalted in</p> <p><b>that day</b></p>	<p><sup>20</sup>In</p> <p><b>that day</b></p> <p>people will throw away to the moles and bats their idols of silver and idols of gold, which they made to worship.</p>	<p><sup>20</sup>In</p> <p><b>that day</b></p> <p>the remnant of Israel, the survivors of Jacob, will no longer rely on him who struck them down but will truly rely on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel.</p>	<p><sup>27</sup>In</p> <p><b>that day</b></p> <p>their burden will be lifted from your shoulders, their yoke from your neck; the yoke will be broken because you have grown so fat.</p>	<p><sup>18</sup>Woe to you who long for</p> <p><b>the day of the LORD!</b></p> <p>Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light.</p>

**The phrase occurs five times in the book of Joel and is its dominant theme. Here are the four others ones.**

<b>Joel 2:1</b>	<b>Joel 2:11</b>	<b>Joel 2:31</b>	<b>Joel 3:14</b>
<p>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for</p> <p><b>the day of the LORD</b> is coming. It is close at hand—</p>	<p>The LORD thunders at the head of his army; his forces are beyond number, and mighty is the army that obeys his command.</p> <p><b>The day of the LORD</b> is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it?</p>	<p>The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful</p> <p><b>day of the LORD.</b></p>	<p><sup>14</sup>Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For <b>the day of the LORD</b> is near in the valley of decision.</p>

## Apparently six other prophets use it. Let's look at them.

<b>Isa 13:6,9</b>	<b>Ez 13:5, 30:3</b>	<b>Am 5:18, 20</b>	<b>Ob 15</b>	<b>Zeph 1:7, 14</b>	<b>Mal 4:5</b>
<p><sup>6</sup>Wail, for the day of the LORD is near; it will come like destruction from the Almighty. . . . <sup>9</sup>See, the day of the LORD is coming—a cruel day, with wrath and fierce anger—to make the land desolate and destroy the sinners within it.</p>	<p><sup>5</sup>You have not gone up to the breaches in the wall to repair it for the people of Israel so that it will stand firm in the battle on the day of the LORD. . . .<sup>3</sup>For the day is near, the day of the LORD is near—a day of clouds, a time of doom for the nations.</p>	<p><sup>18</sup>Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light . . . <sup>20</sup>Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light—pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?</p>	<p><sup>15</sup>“The day of the LORD is near for all nations. As you have done, it will be done to you; your deeds will return upon your own head.</p>	<p><sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near. The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. <sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near—near and coming quickly. The cry on the day of the LORD is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry.</p>	<p><sup>5</sup>“See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.</p>

## Let me make some observations about the “Day of the LORD.”

### It's associated with the following concepts:

- destruction from the Almighty
- wrath and fierce anger
- to make the land desolate
- destroy the sinners within it.
- the battle on the day of the LORD
- a day of clouds
- a time of doom for the nations
- darkness, not light
- pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness
- it is near for all nations.
  - As you have done, it will be done to you
  - your deeds will return upon your own head

- The LORD has prepared a sacrifice
- he has consecrated those he has invited
- The cry on the day of the LORD is bitter
- the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry.
- the prophet Elijah
- a great and dreadful day

## **An equivalent expression occurs in Zechariah 14:1**

Zechariah 14:1 New International Version (NIV)

### The LORD Comes and Reigns

**14** A day of the LORD is coming, Jerusalem, when your possessions will be plundered and divided up within your very walls.

**So here is what the NIV bible goes on to say:**

**“Sometimes abbreviated as “that day,” the term often refers to the decisive intervention of God in history, such as through the invasion of locusts in Joel or at the battle of Carchemish, 605 B.C.**

Jeremiah 46:2, 10 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup>Concerning Egypt: This is the message against the army of Pharaoh Necho king of Egypt, which was defeated at Carchemish on the Euphrates River by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon in the fourth year of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah . . .<sup>10</sup>But that day belongs to the Lord, the LORD Almighty— a day of vengeance, for vengeance on his foes. The sword will devour till it is satisfied, till it has quenched its thirst with blood. For the Lord, the LORD Almighty, will offer sacrifice in the land of the north by the River Euphrates.

**Then the NIV study Bible notes says this:**

**“It can also refer to Christ's coming to consummate history.**

**Malachi 4:5 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>5</sup>“See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.

## **1 Corinthians 5:5 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>5</sup>hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh,<sup>[a][b]</sup> so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.

### **Footnotes:**

- a. **1 Corinthians 5:5** In contexts like this, the Greek word for *flesh* (*sarx*) refers to the sinful state of human beings, often presented as a power in opposition to the Spirit.
- b. **1 Corinthians 5:5** Or *of his body*

## **2 Corinthians 1:14 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>14</sup>as you have understood us in part, you will come to understand fully that you can boast of us just as we will boast of you in the day of the Lord Jesus.

## **1 Thessalonians 5:2 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>2</sup>for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

## **2 Peter 3:10 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>10</sup>But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.<sup>[a]</sup>

### **Footnotes:**

- a. **2 Peter 3:10** Some manuscripts *be burned up*

**I wonder if that is related to the concept "to make desolate the land." I'll continue this in depth study of the Introduction to the Book of Joel.**