

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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Amos 5 Part 5



So once again I’ve pressed the concept of the Day of the Lord. In our last study, we learned people longed for it. The study Bible notes said it was because that as God’s people, they’d come out on top.

The NIV Study Bible also says it’s the ‘time when God will show Himself as victor of the world, vindicating His claims to be the Lord of all the earth.’”

This day of the Lord will be a day of darkness, and not night.

The cosmic world order is disrupted, and light is turned to darkness. The stars and constellations and sun and moon will be impacted. One Scripture says the stars will be dissolved. The word means to melt; figuratively, to flow, dwindle, vanish. It’s the undoing of creation. Let’s pick up on that theme and continue.

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

The NIV adds this interesting observation about the Day of the Lord--it's as if creation is being undone.

Jeremiah 4:23	Genesis 1:2-3
²³ I looked at the earth, and it was formless and empty ; and at the heavens, and their light was gone.	1 ² Now the earth was formless and empty , darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. ³ And God said, " Let there be light, " and there was light.
FORMLESS	EMPTY
H922 bohuv bo'-hoo from an unused root (meaning to be empty); a vacuity, i.e. (superficially) an undistinguishable ruin.	H8414 tohuw to'-hoo from an unused root meaning to lie waste; a desolation (of surface), i.e. desert; figuratively, a worthless thing; adverbially, in vain.

Again, it's amazing how at the creation of the world darkness and chaos and formlessness appeared. It seems like sin brings the unraveling of creation, as with the flood. But God has said "let there be light" and also He has hung a rainbow in the sky (Genesis 9:13) to affirm that He will not let the floods (representing chaos, overwhelming creation as a flood) destroy the earth.

Next time we will briefly look at the references to THE DAY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

1 Co 1:8	1 Co 3:12-15
⁸ He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.	¹² If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³ their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each

	person's work. ¹⁴ If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.	
1 Co 5:5	2 Co 1:14	Php 1: 6,10
⁵ hand this man over to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved on the day of the Lord.	¹⁴ 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.	⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
Php 1: 10	Php 2:16	
⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,	¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain.	

So the concept of the “Day of the Lord” has more than one meaning. It can mean:

- 1. An imminent, decisive judgment on Israel.**
- 2. It can be the last day, culminating in a near unraveling of the creative order and Christ’s judgment of all.**

Now let’s focus a bit more on Israel’s judgment in this chapter and finish up.

Amos 5:21-27 New International Version (NIV)

²¹“I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me.

The Study Bible says that this verse (and the next two) summarize and reject the current practice of religion in Israel. The institutions were not wrong in themselves. It was the worshippers and the way

that they worshipped that were wrong. The people had no basis on which to come to God. Their conduct reflected disobedience to His law.

Isaiah 1:11-15	NIV Study Notes
<p>¹¹“The multitude of your sacrifices— what are they to me?” says the LORD. “I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.</p> <p>¹²When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts?</p> <p>¹³Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations— I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.</p> <p>¹⁴Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals I hate with all my being. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.</p> <p>¹⁵When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood!</p>	<p>People can give meaningless offerings. Cited is the example of Saul, in this Scripture.</p> <p>1 Samuel 15:22 New International Version (NIV)</p> <p>²²But Samuel replied:</p> <p>“Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.</p> <p>¹⁶You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.</p> <p>¹⁷My sacrifice, O God, is^[a] a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.</p> <p>Footnotes:</p> <p>a. Psalm 51:17 Or <i>The sacrifices of God are</i></p>

²²Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them.

Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,

I will have no regard for them.

²³ Away with the noise of your songs!

I will not listen to the music of your harps.

²⁴ **But let justice roll on like a river,
righteousness like a never-failing stream!**

²⁵ "Did you bring me sacrifices and offerings
forty years in the wilderness, people of Israel?"

²⁶ You have lifted up the shrine of your king,
the pedestal of your idols,
the star of your god^[a]—
which you made for yourselves.

²⁷ Therefore I will send you into exile beyond Damascus,"
says the LORD, whose name is God Almighty.

Footnotes:

- a. **Amos 5:26** Or *lifted up Sakkuth your king / and Kaiwan your idols, / your star-gods;*
Septuagint *lifted up the shrine of Molek / and the star of your god Rephan, / their idols*