

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 8 Part 2



So the next part is of this chapter is fascinating. The scene shifts to things that sound very close to what happened at the Crucifixion of Jesus. In the midst of all these prophecies of gloom and doom, included is a scene that evokes things like:

- The darkness at noon at the death of Jesus.
- Religious festivals turned into mourning, like surely the Passover after Jesus’ death was.
- It even says the mourning that transpires will be like “the mourning for an only son.

Could this be showing that these punishments were actually fulfilled in Jesus? If so, that changes the way we are to read a lot of these prophecies in the Bible.

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

Amos 8:9-14

New International Version

⁹ "In that day," declares the Sovereign LORD,

"I will make the sun go down at noon
and darken the earth in broad daylight.

Earlier, we studied how the "day of the Lord" was often associated light turning into darkness and the cosmic order being disrupted. This very same thing happened at the crucifixion of Jesus.

Luke 23:44-45

The Death of Jesus

⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

¹⁰ I will turn your religious festivals into mourning

Additionally, the religious Festival Jesus was keeping with His disciples the night before, Passover, had been turned into sorrow and mourning.

Matthew 26:36-38 New International Version

Gethsemane

³⁶ Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to them, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." ³⁷ He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee along with him, and he began **to be sorrowful** and troubled. ³⁸ Then he said to them, "My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me."

Mark 14:19 New International Version

¹⁹ They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely you don't mean me?"

and all your singing into weeping.
 I will make all of you wear sackcloth
 and shave your heads.
 I will make that time like mourning for an only son

The NIV adds it would be like the mourning for a Son on whom the future of the family depended.

2 Samuel 18:18	Zechariah 12:10
¹⁸ During his lifetime Absalom had taken a pillar and erected it in the King's Valley as a monument to himself, for he thought, "I have no son to carry on the memory of my name." He named the pillar after himself, and it is called Absalom's Monument to this day.	¹⁰ "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on ^[b] me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

Luke 23:48 New International Version
⁴⁸ When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away.
Luke 23:27 New International Version
²⁷ A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.

Well, that's as far as I can go with that right now. I am on a journey trying in particular to figure out how the prophecies of the Book of Revelation are to be seen.

It's still a little vague to me.

But let's continue with Chapter 8

¹¹ "The days are coming," declares the Sovereign LORD,
 "when I will send a famine through the land—

not a famine of food or a thirst for water,
but a famine of hearing the words of the LORD.

In times of great distress, Israel turned to God for a prophetic word of hope or guidance.

2Ki 19:1-4	2 Ki 19:14-15	2Ki 22:13-14	Jer 21:1-2	Eze 14:7
<p>19 When King Hezekiah heard this, he tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and went into the temple of the LORD. ² He sent Eliakim the palace administrator, Shebna the secretary and the leading priests, all wearing sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz. ³ They told him, "This is what Hezekiah says: This day is a day of distress and rebuke and disgrace, as when children come to the moment of birth and there is no strength to deliver them. ⁴ It may be that the LORD your God will hear all the words of the field commander, whom his master, the</p>	<p>¹³ "Go and inquire of the LORD for me and for the people and for all Judah about what is written in this book that has been found. Great is the LORD's anger that burns against us because those who have gone before us have not obeyed the words of this book; they have not acted in accordance with all that is written there concerning us."</p> <p>¹⁴ Hilkiyah the priest, Ahikam, Akbor, Shaphan and Asaiah went to speak to the prophet Huldah,</p>	<p>21 The word came to Jeremiah from the LORD when King Zedekiah sent to him Pashhur son of Malkijah and the priest Zephaniah son of Maaseiah. They said: ² "Inquire now of the LORD for us because Nebuchadnezzar^(a) king of Babylon is attacking us. Perhaps the LORD will perform wonders for us as in times past so that he will withdraw from us."</p>	<p>⁷ "When any of the Israelites or any foreigner residing in Israel separate themselves from me and set up idols in their hearts and put a wicked stumbling block before their faces and then go to a prophet to inquire of me, I the LORD will answer them myself.</p>	

<p>king of Assyria, has sent to ridicule the living God, and that he will rebuke him for the words the LORD your God has heard. Therefore pray for the remnant that still survives." . . . ¹⁴ Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it. Then he went up to the temple of the LORD and spread it out before the LORD. ¹⁵ And Hezekiah prayed to the LORD: "LORD, the God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.</p>	<p>who was the wife of Shallum son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe. She lived in Jerusalem, in the New Quarter.</p>		
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¹² People will stagger from sea to sea and wander from north to east, searching for the word of the LORD, but they will not find it.

I so identify with that thirst.

Psalm 42^{[a][b]}

¹ As the deer pants for streams of water,
so my soul pants for you, my God.

² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When can I go and meet with God?

¹³ "In that day "the lovely young women and strong young men will faint because of thirst.

Would that be "thirst" for the Word of the Lord?

¹⁴ Those who swear by the sin of Samaria—
who say, 'As surely as your god lives, Dan,'
or, 'As surely as the god^[a] of Beersheba lives'—
they will fall, never to rise again."

The gods of these noted worship centers would not answer. They could not answer.

They are not the true God, the only God, the God of Israel.