

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*

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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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Obadiah 1 Part 1



So finally we’re going to get to study the text of this fascinating little book. It’s interesting because God had indeed rejected Esau.

Genesis 25:23	Mal 1:3	Romans 9:13
²³ The LORD said to her, “Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger.”	I have loved Jacob, ³ but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals.”	¹³ Just as it is written: “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

Let’s hear what the Lord wants to say to Edom in this book.

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

Obadiah's Vision

¹ The vision of Obadiah.

This is what the Sovereign LORD says about Edom—

We have heard a message from the LORD:

An envoy was sent to the nations to say,
"Rise, let us go against her for battle"—

² "See, I will make you small among the nations;
you will be utterly despised.

³ The pride of your heart has deceived you,
you who live in the clefts of the rocks^[a]

and make your home on the heights,
you who say to yourself,

'Who can bring me down to the ground?'

⁴ Though you soar like the eagle
and make your nest among the stars,
from there I will bring you down,"

declares the LORD.

As you can see, this paralleled in Jeremiah 49:1-4. The word "vision" is frequently used in the OT to designate a revelation from God.

Proverbs 29:18	Isaiah 1:1
¹⁸ Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction.	¹ The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

The word for vision:

H2377 chazown khaw-zone'

from **H2372** – chazah - to gaze at; mentally, to perceive, contemplate (with pleasure); specifically, to have a vision of.

a sight (mentally), i.e. a dream, revelation, or oracle.

Edom feels secure because of mountain fortresses and her wise men. But Obadiah announces God's judgment on her for her hostility to Israel---and for standing aloof in the face of her humiliation.

Jeremiah 49

14 I have heard a message from the Lord;

an envoy was sent to the nations to say,

"Assemble yourselves to attack it!
Rise up for battle!"

15 "Now I will make you small among the nations, despised by mankind.

16 The terror you inspire and the pride of your heart have deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks, who occupy the heights of the hill.

Though you build your nest as high as the eagle's, from there I will bring you down," declares the Lord.

⁵ "If thieves came to you, if robbers in the night—
oh, what a disaster awaits you!—
would they not steal only as much as they wanted?
If grape pickers came to you,
would they not leave a few grapes?"

⁶ But how Esau will be ransacked,
his hidden treasures pillaged!

Again, this paralleled in Jeremiah.

With regards to hidden treasures: The Ancient Greek historian Diodorus Siculus indicates the Edomites put their wealth---accumulated from trade---in vaults in rocks.

⁷ All your allies will force you to the border;
your friends will deceive and overpower you;
those who eat your bread will set a trap for you,
but you will not detect it.

This hearkens back to this verse:

Jeremiah 49:9-10

⁹ If grape pickers came to you,
would they not leave a few grapes?
If thieves came during the night, would
they not steal only as much as they
wanted?

¹⁰ But I will strip Esau bare;
I will uncover his hiding places,
so that he cannot conceal himself.
His armed men are destroyed,
also his allies and neighbors,
so there is no one to say,

Psalm 41			Study note		
⁹ Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned (lifted up his heel in Hebrew) against me.			One who shared the kings table---i.e., was an honored, as well as trusted, friend (abandonment by friends was a common experience at a time when God seemed to have withdrawn his favor.		
Ps 38:11	Ps 41:9	Ps 69:8	Ps 88:8, 18	Jer 12:6	Jer 15:17
¹¹ My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds; my neighbors stay far away.	⁹ Even my close friend, someone I trusted, one who shared my bread, has turned ^[a] against me.	⁸ I am a foreigner to my own family, a stranger to my own mother's children;	⁸ You have taken from me my closest friends and have made me repulsive to them. I am confined and cannot escape; ¹⁸ You have taken from	⁶ Your relatives, members of your own family— even they have betrayed you; they have raised a loud cry against you. Do not trust them,	¹⁷ I never sat in the company of revelers, never made merry with them; I sat alone because your hand was on me and you had filled me with

			me friend and neighbor— darkness is my closest friend.	though they speak well of you.	indignation.
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Wow. What a reminder of the “cost” of radically serving God. Christ new what He was saying when He said this:

Luke 14

²⁵ Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: ²⁶ “If anyone comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, even their own life—such a person cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ And whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

Edom would suffer from a trusted friend as well---one who ate His own bread. Jesus did too!.

John 13:18

¹⁸ “I am not referring to all of you; I know those I have chosen. But this is to fulfill this passage of Scripture: ‘He who shared my bread has turned against me.’

⁸ “In that day,” declares the LORD,
“will I not destroy the wise men of Edom,
those of understanding in the mountains of Esau?”

The phrase “in that day” is used. The NIV says the words describing Edom’s destruction have an eschatological ring. In OT prophecy Edom was often emblematic of all the world powers hostile to God and His kingdom. Her judgment anticipates God’s removal of all such opposition in that day.

Amos 9:12

¹² so that they may possess the remnant of Edom
and all the nations that bear my name,^[a]
declares the LORD, who will do these things.

Read full chapter

Footnotes

- a. **Amos 9:12** Hebrew; Septuagint *so that the remnant of people / and all the nations that bear my name may seek me*

That's an interesting thought. "Edom"---and "all the nations that bear my name"--will seek God. All live and move and have their being in God. He has set the boundaries and times of the nations of the earth so that they may reach out and find him---though He is not far from any of us.

Acts 17

²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'^(b) As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'