

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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Obadiah 1 Part 3



So while God punishes and even wreaks vengeance, He apparently wants us to be careful about the way we act when He does. And He watches our hearts too, because He’s not pleased when perpetual hatred and anger is in our hearts. Apparently in Genesis 33 Esau himself had dealt with his anger and even bitter hatred against Jacob for the moment. He may even have dealt with the issues face to face with Jacob---for the moment. But bitterness is a poison root. On the surface, Esau’s stemmed over deceitful injustices his brother actually did commit. But at its core was something deeper---perhaps remorse, guilt, anguish or something else---stemming from his lack of self-control and giving in to severe appetite in the moment. Sometimes you give away something you can’t get back. That’s a lesson I’ll briefly cover, and then finish up the rest of Obadiah by focusing on the resettlements to take place.

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

Hebrews 12:14-17 New International Version

¹⁴ Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. ¹⁶ See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son.

Perhaps there is a relation here between what Esau did and sexual immorality. Both were the result of giving into an intense craving of some sort---either sexually, or even physically like for something like food. Perhaps some would argue that Esau was legitimate in his need for food.

Genesis 25:29-34

New International Version

²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. ³⁰ He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.^[a])

³¹ Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

³² "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"

³³ But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.

³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left.

So Esau despised his birthright.

Esau gave in to the temptation of the moment, to the lust,

Perhaps this Scripture speaks to this situation as well:
Philippians 3:19
New International Version

¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things.

Matthew 4
New International Version

Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

4 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted[a] by the devil. 2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

the craving. Was he legitimately “hungry”? Probably. Was it as intense as he felt it was? Maybe. But remember Jesus’ example when He was “famished” from hunger and had a very legitimate need (see the sidebar).

¹⁷ Afterward, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done.

So was Esau’s real problem, deep down inside, an inability to accept his failure at this moment?



At any rate, Esau may have dealt with his anger and bitterness to meet Jacob face to face later, but somehow it wasn’t completely resolved. It trickled down into his descendants and would call for the eventual destruction of the whole nation eternally by God. Let’s finish up the chapter now.

People from the Negev will occupy the mountains of Esau, and people from the foothills will possess the land of the Philistines.

They will occupy the fields of Ephraim and Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead.

²⁰ This company of Israelite exiles who are in Canaan will possess the land as far as Zarephath; the exiles from Jerusalem who are in Sepharad **(Some say this might be Sparta, but others feel Sardis in Asian Minor (Turkey))** will possess the towns of the Negev. ²¹ Deliverers will go up on^(d) Mount Zion to govern the mountains of Esau. **And the kingdom will be the LORD’s. AMEN!**



Date	12 July 2010, 19:42 (UTC)
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