

**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

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## **Jonah Introduction Part 4**



So . . . are you running from God? Or are you running toward Him?



Jonah had issues.

He was running from the Lord, and from the ministry God wanted Him to do.

So what can we learn from this amazing book?

I know one thing. Once people really see the cross of Christ, they run toward God.

At least, if they had half a brain, they should! Let’s continue our study.

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

NIV Study Bible Introduction continued here. The next topic:

## BACKGROUND

This study bible concludes that Jonah ministered for the half century that started in 800 BC and ended in 750 BC.

We'd already seen how his name does appear in the book of kings in conjunction with a prophetic ministry.

### 2 Kings 14:25

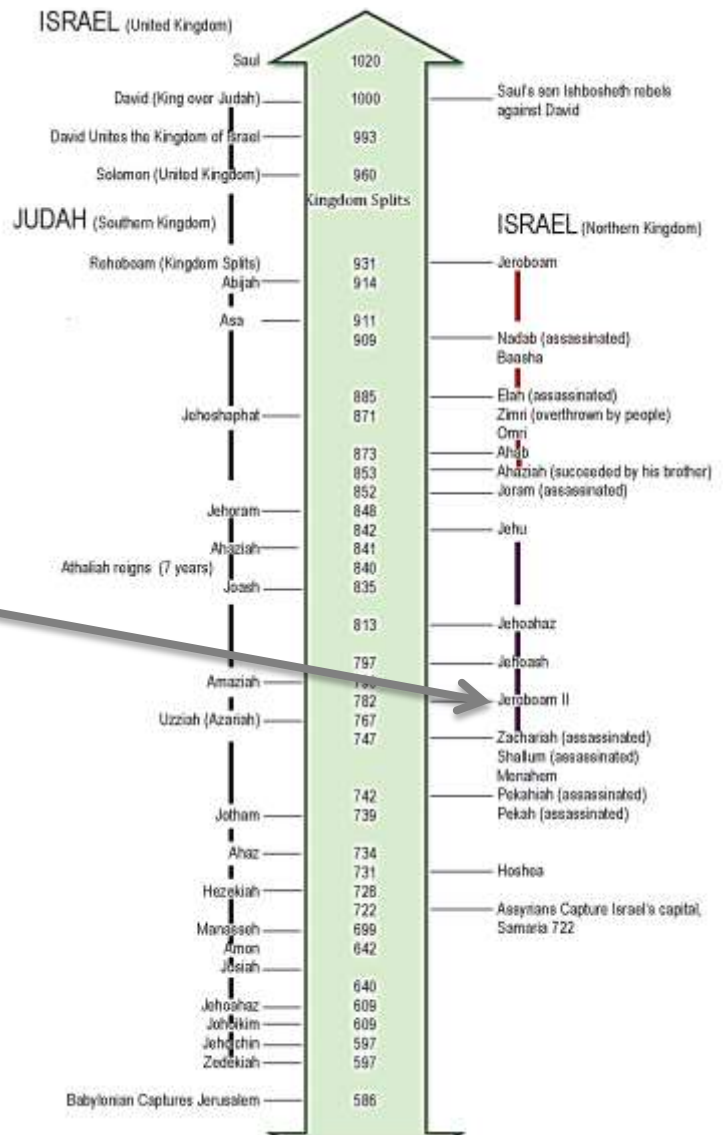
He (Jeroboam II) was the one who restored the boundaries of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Dead Sea, in accordance with the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, spoken through his servant **Jonah** son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath Hopher.

**A significant event affected the northern kingdom of Israel: King Jeroboam II (793-750 BC) restored her traditional borders, ending almost a century of sporadic, seesaw conflict between Israel and Damascus.<sup>2</sup>**

We referred to that above. The additional verses quoted below shows how Jeroboam capitalized on God's good providence on Assyria's defeat of Damascus.

### 2 Kings 14:25-26 New International Version

<sup>25</sup> He was the one who restored the boundaries of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Dead Sea, in accordance with the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, spoken through his



<sup>2222</sup> Dates vary according to reference. Dates in text from NIV Study Bible Introduction to Jonah. Graph provided by [https://www.mq.edu.au/\\_data/assets/image/0010/178183/Timeline-no.05-Ancient-Israel-and-Judah-1020-586-BCE-detailed-timeline.png](https://www.mq.edu.au/_data/assets/image/0010/178183/Timeline-no.05-Ancient-Israel-and-Judah-1020-586-BCE-detailed-timeline.png)

servant Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath Hepher. <sup>26</sup> The LORD had seen how bitterly everyone in Israel, whether slave or free, was suffering; there was no one to help them. <sup>27</sup> And since the LORD had not said he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam son of Jehoash.

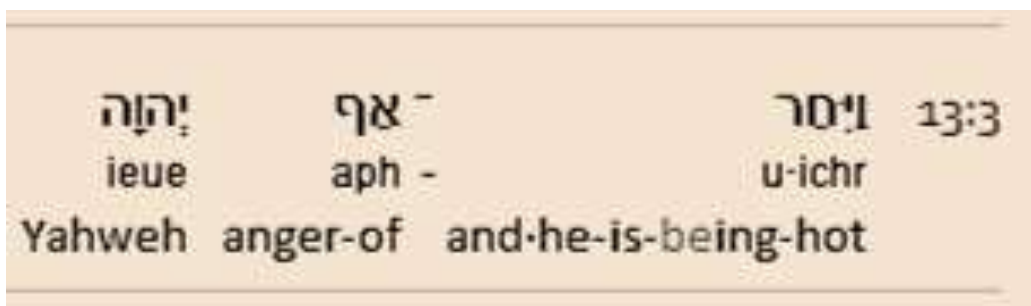
**This temporarily crushed the seat of Aramean power. Prior to that time, Israel had not only been reduced in size considerably, but the king of Damascus was even able to control internal affairs in the northern kingdom.**

2 Kings 13  
New International Version

**Jehoahaz King of Israel**

**13** In the twenty-third year of Joash son of Ahaziah king of Judah, Jehoahaz son of Jehu became king of Israel in Samaria, and he reigned seventeen years. <sup>2</sup> He did evil in the eyes of the LORD by following the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit, and he did not turn away from them. <sup>3</sup> So the LORD’s anger burned against Israel, and for a long time **he kept them under the power of Hazael king of Aram and Ben-Hadad his son.**

**Note: Interesting concept. “The Lord’s anger burned.” Let me look up the original on that.**



Word for “anger”	Word translated “burned”
H639 'aph af	H2734 charah khaw-raw'

<p>from <b>H599</b> (to breathe hard, to be enraged) properly, the nose or nostril; hence, the face, and occasionally a person; also (from the rapid breathing in passion) ire.</p>	<p>a primitive root (compare <b>H2787</b> - charar - to glow, i.e. literally (to melt, burn, dry up) or figuratively (to show or incite passion.); to glow or grow warm; figuratively (usually) to blaze up, of anger, zeal, jealousy. See <b>H8474</b> - tacharah - a facitious root from <b>H2734</b> through the idea of the heat of jealousy- to vie with a rival..</p>
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**It sounds to me like this is doing something to the Lord's emotions. He sustains His anger. But He does get angry---with a zeal.**

### **Mark 3:5**

He looked around at them in **anger** and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored.

### **Matthew 21:12**

Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the **tables** of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves.

### **Mark 11:15**

On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the **tables** of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves,

### **John 2:14**

In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at **tables** exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their **tables**.

**Some things make God mad. He endures it. But his anger still simmers. And He's very compassionate.**

<sup>4</sup>Then Jehoahaz sought the LORD's favor,

**The Hebrew for sought the Lord's favor is translate "beseeched" in the CLV. The literal word means to "rub down" or to "wear out." God can simmer with anger. He can also be "worn out." Like the Jesus taught in this parable.**

Luke 18

New International Version

### **The Parable of the Persistent Widow**

**18** Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray

**The Greek conveys the concept of "being binding" and "to be praying" --- "bound," as it were, to prayer.**

and not give up.

**(Greek word means "be despondent:" to fail, to be weak)**

<sup>2</sup> He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. <sup>3</sup> And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'

**The word for "grant me justice" is literally "out" justice! Make true justice "come out." Vindicate! Could also mean "retaliate," but the I keep going back to the Christ that taught us to say "Father Forgive them they know not what they do," so it's hard to feel right about praying for retaliation**

<sup>4</sup> "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, <sup>5</sup> yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'"

**The phrase here is rendered “attack me” but many, if not most, other translations say “wear me out.”**

**It literally reads (into-consummation coming she-may-be-belaboring me).**

<sup>6</sup> And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup> And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?

**The Greek says “and He is being patient” with them for the phrase “putting them off.”**

<sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

**Back to Jonah and the story of what happened in the days of Jonah.**

and the LORD listened to him, for he saw how severely the king of Aram was oppressing Israel. <sup>5</sup> The LORD provided a deliverer for Israel,

**The word “deliverer” is translated “one saving” in the more literal CLV, and it comes from this word.**

**H3467** yasha` yaw-shah'

a primitive root;

properly, to be open, wide or free, i.e. (by implication) to be safe; causatively, to free or succor.

**I believe this is where the name “Jesus” (Joshua in Hebrew) comes from.**

**H3091** Yhowshuwa` yeh-ho-shoo'-ah

or Yhowshua {yeh-ho-shoo'-ah};

from **H3068** (the word for Yehovah<sup>9</sup> and **H3467**; Jehovah-saved; Jehoshua (i.e. Joshua), the Jewish leader.

Compare **H1954** (Hoshea – He will save) , **H3442** (Yeshua - Deliverer).

KJV: Jehoshua, Jehoshuah, Joshua.

and they escaped from the power of Aram. So the Israelites lived in their own homes as they had before. <sup>6</sup> But they did not turn away from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, which he had caused Israel to commit; they continued in them. Also, the Asherah pole remained standing in Samaria.

<sup>7</sup> Nothing had been left of the army of Jehoahaz except fifty horsemen, ten chariots and ten thousand foot soldiers, for the king of Aram had destroyed the rest and made them like the dust at threshing time.

**So let's finish the NIV study Bible's summarization here.**

**In God's mercy, Jehoash had been able to recover the territory lost to the king of Damascus**

2 Kings 13:25

New International Version

<sup>25</sup> Then Jehoash son of Jehoahaz recaptured from Ben-Hadad son of Hazael the towns he had taken in battle from his father Jehoahaz. Three times Jehoash defeated him, and so he recovered the Israelite towns.

**And Jereboam completed the restoration of Israel's northern borders. But Assyria remained a major threat to Israel.**

**The prophets of the Lord were speaking to Israel about these events. Elisha spoke of future victories over Damascus.**

## 2 Kings 13:14-19

### New International Version

<sup>14</sup> Now Elisha had been suffering from the illness from which he died. Jehoash king of Israel went down to see him and wept over him. "My father! My father!" he cried. "The chariots and horsemen of Israel!"

<sup>15</sup> Elisha said, "Get a bow and some arrows," and he did so. <sup>16</sup> "Take the bow in your hands," he said to the king of Israel. When he had taken it, Elisha put his hands on the king's hands.

<sup>17</sup> "Open the east window," he said, and he opened it. "Shoot!" Elisha said, and he shot. "The LORD's arrow of victory, the arrow of victory over Aram!" Elisha declared. "You will completely destroy the Arameans at Aphek."

<sup>18</sup> Then he said, "Take the arrows," and the king took them. Elisha told him, "Strike the ground." He struck it three times and stopped. <sup>19</sup> The man of God was angry with him and said, "You should have struck the ground five or six times; then you would have defeated Aram and completely destroyed it. But now you will defeat it only three times."

**Fascinating prophecy that shows how our passionate response to God's commands does matter.**

**Jonah also prophesied of the restoration that Jeroboam II accomplished.**

## 2 Kings 14:25

### New International Version

<sup>25</sup> He was the one who restored the boundaries of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Dead Sea,<sup>[a]</sup> in accordance with the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, spoken through his servant Jonah son of Amittai, the prophet from Gath Hopher.

**But soon after Israel triumphed, she began to gloat over newfound power. Because she was relieved of foreign pressures---relief that had come from the**



**encouraging words of Elisha and Jonah---she felt jealously complacent about her favored status with God.**

Amos 6:1

New International Version

### **Woe to the Complacent**

**6** Woe to you who are complacent in Zion,  
and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria,  
you notable men of the foremost nation,  
to whom the people of Israel come!

**She focused her expectations on the “day of the Lord” when she believed darkness would engulf other nations, leaving her to bask in His light.**

Amos 5:18-20

New International Version

### **The Day of the LORD**

**18** 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.

**19** It will be as though a man fled from a lion  
only to meet a bear,

as though he entered his house

and rested his hand on the wall

only to have a snake bite him.

**20** Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light—  
pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?

**It was such a time that God announced to His people Israel that He would “spare them no longer.”**

Amos 7:8	Amos 8:2
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<p><sup>8</sup> And the LORD asked me, "What do you see, Amos?"</p> <p>"A plumb line," I replied.</p> <p>Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.</p>	<p><sup>2</sup> "What do you see, Amos?" he asked.</p> <p>"A basket of ripe fruit," I answered.</p> <p>Then the LORD said to me, "The time is ripe for my people Israel; I will spare them no longer.</p>
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**He would send them to exile beyond Damascus.**

Amos 5:27

New International Version

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

**He would send them to exile in Assyria.**

<b>Hosea 9:3</b>	<b>Hosea 10:6</b>	<b>Hosea 11:5</b>
<p><sup>3</sup> They will not remain in the LORD's land; Ephraim will return to Egypt and eat unclean food in Assyria.</p>	<p><sup>6</sup> It will be carried to Assyria as tribute for the great king. Ephraim will be disgraced; Israel will be ashamed of its foreign alliances.</p>	<p><sup>5</sup> "Will they not return to Egypt and will not Assyria rule over them because they refuse to repent?"</p>

**It is during this time that the Lord sent Jonah to Nineveh to call for her to repent in light of impending Divine Judgment.**