

**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*

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**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

**graceWORKS! GOING DEEPER**

**Micah 2 Part 1<sup>2</sup>**



**There is one loose end from my study on Micah 1. It’s in verse 13 where Micah says:**

You who live in Lachish,  
harness fast horses to the chariot.  
You are where the sin of Daughter Zion began,  
for the transgressions of Israel were found in you.

**I want to explore that a bit biblically. Then I’ll move into Micah 2.**

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

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## Micah 1 New International Version

13 You who live in Lachish,  
harness fast horses to the chariot.  
You are where the sin of Daughter Zion began,  
for the transgressions of Israel were found in you.

**What exactly does that mean? How was Lachish, with her horses and chariots, the place “where the sin of Daughter Zion began”? Maybe this had something to do with it.**

### 2 Kings 18

<sup>13</sup> In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah’s reign, Sennacherib king of Assyria attacked all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them. <sup>14</sup> So Hezekiah king of Judah sent this message to the king of Assyria at Lachish:

“I have done wrong. Withdraw from me, and **I will pay** whatever you demand of me.”  
The king of Assyria exacted from Hezekiah king of Judah three hundred talents of silver and thirty talents of gold. <sup>15</sup> So **Hezekiah gave him all the silver** that was found in the temple of the LORD and in the treasuries of the royal palace.

<sup>16</sup> At this time Hezekiah king of Judah stripped off the gold with which he had covered the doors and doorposts of the temple of the LORD, and gave it to the king of Assyria

**I just wonder if relying on his pragmatic efforts rather than relying on the Lord was his downfall.**

**At any rate, Lachish was considered by Micah the “beginning” of the sin of Daughter Zion, for the “transgressions of Israel were found” in her. Maybe the sin was Judah’s king interacting politically with foreign powers, and paying them off with things that belonged to the temple of the Lord.**

**Let’s move onto Micah 2.**

## Micah 2 New International Version

### Human Plans and God’s Plans

2 Woe to those who plan iniquity,  
to those who plot evil on their beds!

<b>Proverbs 6:14</b>	<b>Proverbs 6:18</b>	<b>Zec 7:10</b>
<sup>14</sup> who plots evil with deceit in his heart— he always stirs up conflict.	<sup>18</sup> a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil,	<sup>10</sup> Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. Do not plot evil against each other.'

At morning's light they carry it out  
because it is in their power to do it.

**Just because you can do something doesn't mean that it's right to do it!**

<sup>2</sup> They covet fields and seize them,  
and houses, and take them.  
They defraud people of their homes,  
they rob them of their inheritance.

**Keeping inheritance in a family was important to the LORD.**

<b>Leviticus 25:13</b>	<b>Numbers 27</b>	<b>Numbers 36</b>	<b>1 Kings 21:3</b>
<sup>13</sup> "In this Year of Jubilee everyone is to return to their own property.	<sup>3</sup> "Our father died in the wilderness. . . <sup>4</sup> Why should our father's name disappear from his clan because he had no son? Give us property among our father's relatives."	<sup>7</sup> No inheritance in Israel is to pass from one tribe to another, for every Israelite shall keep the tribal inheritance of their ancestors.	<sup>3</sup> But Naboth replied, "The LORD forbid that I should give you the inheritance of my ancestors."

<sup>3</sup> Therefore, the LORD says:

"I am planning disaster against this people,  
from which you cannot save yourselves.

**This is interesting. There are times when you can do something. There are times when nothing you do will make a difference and you have to trust the LORD to save you.**

You will no longer walk proudly,  
for it will be a time of calamity.

<sup>4</sup> In that day people will ridicule you;  
they will taunt you with this mournful song:

'We are utterly ruined;  
my people's possession is divided up.

He takes it from me!

He assigns our fields to traitors."

**The NIV says this refers to the treacherous Assyrians who will capture the land.**

<b>Isaiah 33:1</b>	<b>Isaiah 24:16 and Note</b>
Woe to you, destroyer, you who have not been destroyed! Woe to you, betrayer, you who have not been betrayed! When you stop destroying, you will be destroyed; when you stop betraying, you will be betrayed.	<sup>16</sup> From the ends of the earth we hear singing: "Glory to the Righteous One." But I said, "I waste away, I waste away! Woe to me! The treacherous betray! With treachery the treacherous betray!"

**The NIV says of Isaiah 24:16 that the ends of the earth refer collectively to the godly community that wastes away because of the villainy of treacherous and ungodly nations. The enemies of God's people are seen to be treacherous, and I would add "destroyers" and "betrayers" as well.**

<sup>5</sup> Therefore you will have no one in the assembly of the LORD  
to divide the land by lot.

**Here is a more literal translation.**

(CLV) Mic 2:5

Therefore there is not coming to be for you One flinging the line <sup>i</sup>by lot, in the assembly of Yahweh.

**When Israel settled the promised land, their tribal portions were determined by “lot.”**

**Joshua 14:2**

Their inheritances were assigned by **lot**

**It was a method used often to make serious decisions.**

<b>Ex 28:30</b>	<b>Nu 26:53</b>	<b>Ne 11:1</b>	<b>Jnh 1:7</b>	<b>Ac 1:26</b>
<p><sup>30</sup> Also put the Urim and the Thummim in the breastpiece, so they may be over Aaron’s heart whenever he enters the presence of the LORD. Thus Aaron will always bear the means of making decisions for the Israelites over his heart before the LORD.</p>	<p><sup>53</sup> “The land is to be allotted to them as an inheritance based on the number of names.</p>	<p>Now the leaders of the people settled in Jerusalem. The rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of every ten of them to live in Jerusalem, the holy city, while the remaining nine were to stay in their own towns.</p>	<p><sup>7</sup> Then the sailors said to each other, “Come, let us cast lots to find out who is responsible for this calamity.” They cast lots and the lot fell on Jonah.</p>	<p><sup>26</sup> Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.</p>

**It’s interesting to me that in Acts 26:18, when Paul was told by Christ to “to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me” that the word for place is the same word as “lot” (allotment) used in casting lots for a tribal inheritance. We can receive our “lot” beginning now, because the Kingdom of Heaven has drawn near. (Mark 1:14-15)**