

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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Micah 2 Part 2²



Micah 2 begins with a warning to those who plot evil, but ends in a glorious way! Notice this amazing Scripture at the end of the chapter:¹² “I will surely gather all of you, Jacob; I will surely

bring together the remnant of Israel. I will bring them together like sheep in a pen, like a flock in its pasture; the place will throng with people.¹³ The One who breaks open the way will go up before them; they will break through the gate and go out. Their King will pass through before them, the LORD at their head.”

To me that speaks of Jesus---the One who breaks open the way!

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

² New International Version (NIV) Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. (Author’s note: This translation, and the source for many of the study notes that accompany it, are taken from The NIV Study Bible, Copyright 1985,1995, 2002, 2008, 2011 . These notes are referenced throughout and paraphrased frequently in the notes.)

Micah 2

New International Version

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

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

²They covet fields and seize them, and houses, and take them.

They defraud people of their homes, they rob them of their inheritance.

God sees! Notice what Hagar said:

Genesis 16

¹³ She gave this name to the LORD who spoke to her: "You are the God who sees me," for she said, "I have now seen the One who sees me."

God sees. And God will take care of the ones who have been mistreated, like Hagar. And like me and you too!

³Therefore, the LORD says:

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

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

The NIV says the rich, oppressing classes will suffer because of their cruelty at the expense of the poor, for the fields they seized and the inheritances they robbed. It will be a horrific disaster---their impending exile.

⁴In 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.'"

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

As we observed yesterday, the NIV study Bible believes this means that the treacherous Assyrians will capture the land, and there will be no land to divide up.

What’s even worse is they have false prophets who encourage their sin. This section coming up (verses 6-11) is seen as a unit that is framed by the word “prophesy.”

Micah 2:6	Micah 2:11
6 “Do not prophesy,” their prophets say. “Do not prophesy about these things; disgrace will not overtake us.”	If a liar and deceiver comes and says, ‘I will prophesy for you plenty of wine and beer,’ that would be just the prophet for this people!

False Prophets

6 “Do not prophesy,” their prophets say.
“Do not prophesy about these things;
disgrace will not overtake us.”

**This verse is spoken of by Micah. The next 6 verses are spoken by God.
In this verse, the prophets are telling Micah don’t prophesy these things.**

7 You descendants of Jacob, should it be said, “Does the LORD become impatient?

NIV Footnote says: Is the Spirit of the Lord impatient?

Does he do such things?” “Do not my words do good to the one whose ways are upright?

God’s words produce good in the ones whose ways are upright! Look at the CLV translation of this.

[\(CLV\) Mic 2:7](#)

Is this said^l, house of Jacob: Is the spirit of Yahweh shortened if these be His actions? Are not My words^c doing good with the one walking uprightly?

Here is another Scripture that comes to mind.

1 Peter 1:25

but **the word of the Lord** endures forever.” And this is **the word** that was preached to you.

God’s word is not an enemy to those who walk uprightly. It is a blessing. How sad though that people reject God’s word.

⁸ Lately my people have risen up
like an enemy.

You strip off the rich robe
from those who pass by without a care,
like men returning from battle.

God’s people were being treated both by prophet and the wealthy like men returning from battle, taking spoil of whatever they wanted to take spoil of.

Here is the CLV version of that verse:

(CLV) Mic 2:8

⁺Even yesterday, My people, they are rising [’]as an enemy^l; You are stripping the fur robe from off the [~]peaceful[~], From those passing in serenity, turning away from battle.

⁹ You drive the women of my people
from their pleasant homes. **The CLV says their “cozy” homes. They even robbed these women’s children of God’s blessings!**

You take away my blessing
from their children forever.

¹⁰ Get up, go away!
For this is not your resting place,
because it is defiled,
it is ruined, beyond all remedy.

The CSB says “defilement brings destruction.” I think Romans 6 says the same thing about sin.

¹¹ If a liar and deceiver comes and says,
‘I will prophesy for you plenty of wine and beer,’

John 3

19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

CLV Jn 3:20 - Jn 3:21

20 For everyone [°]who is committing bad things is hating the light and is not coming [~]to^d the light, lest his [°]acts may be ^lexposed.

21 Now he [°]who is doing the truth is coming [~]to^d the light that his [°]acts may be made ^lmanifest, [’]for they ^lhave been wrought [~]in God.

Romans 6:20

When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. 21 What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death!

that would be just the prophet for this people!

One commentary said it was wrong for these prophets to simply prophesy about enjoying the pleasures of life.

But right in the midst of all this, look what God says---it's like an emotional outburst of hope for what is going to happen in Jesus!

Deliverance Promised

¹² "I will surely gather all of you, Jacob; I will surely bring together the remnant of Israel.

I will bring them together like sheep in a pen,
like a flock in its pasture;
the place will throng with people.

¹³ The One who breaks open the way will go up before them;
they will break through the gate and go out.

Their King will pass through before them,
the LORD at their head."

John 10:16

I have **other sheep** that are not of this **sheep** pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.

The NIV says those other sheep are those outside Judaism.

This sounds so like the resurrection, where Christ breaks through the gates of death and hell and leads people out of them! Christ said this to Peter in Matthew 16:

I will build my church, and the gates of Hades (**HELL**) will not overcome it.

Praise God!

Footnotes

- a. **Micah 2:7** *Or Is the Spirit of the LORD*