

**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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**Micah 4<sup>2</sup>**



**I’ve been pleasantly surprised by my foray into the book of Micah. It is filled with messages of relevance and application to our day. And in Micah 4, a Scripture of great beauty will begin Micah’s exclamation of hope. It reads like this:** in the last days. . .the mountain of the LORD’s temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. **To what is the prophet referring? A beautiful concept. And it shows how all prophecy, ultimately, is about Jesus. It’s all about Jesus. And Jesus is truly “all” and “in all.”**

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

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Micah 4  
New International Version

### **The Mountain of the LORD**

**4** In the last days

the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established  
as the highest of the mountains;  
it will be exalted above the hills,  
and peoples will stream to it.

**The previous verse had ended this way----Zion would be like a plowed field, Jerusalem would become a heap of rubble, and the "temple hill" a mound overgrown with thickets.**

**But now we're talking about the "mountain of the Lord's temple."**

**This is what the NIV calls "an eschatological" salvation message.**

**The physical temple would be destroyed. But let's talk about the Temple that really matters. The temple of Jesus' body.**

Eschatological

adjective

- . Pertaining to the last or final things.
- . Pertaining to **eschatology**.
- . of or relating to or dealing with or regarding the ultimate destiny of mankind and the world

the GNU version of the Collaborative International Dictionary of English.

<b>John 2</b>	<b>Notes, Comments</b>
<p><sup>13</sup> When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. <sup>15</sup> 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. <sup>16</sup> To those who sold</p>	<p><b>Jesus was passionate about even the physical temple. So much so He physically did something about it. Can you imagine the bravery it took to do something like this? And the physical power that it took? He called it His "Father's house," and in the</b></p>

doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!" <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me."<sup>[c]</sup>

<sup>18</sup> The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"

<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."

<sup>20</sup> They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" <sup>21</sup> But the temple he had spoken of was his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

**Greek, it communicated that it had been turned into a mart (from the word which get the word "Emporium"). Care for God's house "ate at Him" ---the Greek conveyed "devoured" Him.**

**Of course the Jews reacted to this rogue. And Jesus once again "spoke" God" in John. And by that I mean, He spoke in terms of what things meant spiritually, not just physically. "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."**

**The Temple He spoke of was His body. His body---WHICH WE NOW ARE---was to be the temple that mattered. And the mountain of the Lord's house was to change too.**

<b>Hebrews 12:22</b>	<b>Hebrews 11:10</b>	<b>Hebrews 11:16</b>	<b>Hebrews 13:14</b>	<b>Php 3:20</b>
But you have come to <b>Mount Zion</b> , to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem.	<sup>10</sup> For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.	<sup>16</sup> . . . a heavenly one. . . God. . . has prepared a city for them.	<sup>14</sup> For here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.	<sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,

**We are to be a part of the “mountain” of the Lord’s temple, the heavenly Zion. We are now the Israel of God. It is made up of believing Jews and Gentiles, the new seed of Abraham and the heir according to the promise, who is Jesus.**

<b>Galatians 6</b>	<b>1 Co 10:18</b>	<b>Galatians 3:29</b>	<b>Romans 9:6</b>	<b>Php 3:3</b>
<p><sup>15</sup> Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. <sup>16</sup> Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule and to the Israel of God.</p>	<p><sup>18</sup> See Israel according to the flesh! are not those eating the sacrifices in the fellowship of the altar?</p>	<p><sup>29</sup> and if ye [are] of Christ then of Abraham ye are seed, and according to promise -- heirs.</p>	<p><sup>6</sup> And it is not possible that the word of God hath failed; for not all who [are] of Israel are these Israel;</p>	<p><sup>3</sup> for we are the circumcision, who by the Spirit are serving God, and glorying in Christ Jesus, and in flesh having no trust,</p>

<sup>2</sup> Many nations will come and say,

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,  
to the temple of the God of Jacob.

He will teach us his ways,  
so that we may walk in his paths.”

**So if we are to understand this correctly, we will go up to God’s mountain, the spiritual Mount Zion from which His love and service to the world continues to flow.**

<b>Revelation 14:1</b>	<b>Note</b>
And I saw, and lo, a Lamb having stood	<b>In the Old Testament Mt. Zion was their</b>

<p>upon the <b>mount</b> Sion, and with him an hundred forty-four thousands, having the name of his Father written upon their foreheads; and I heard a voice out of the heaven, as a voice of many waters, and as a voice of great thunder, and a voice I heard of harpers harping with their harps, and they sing, as it were, a new song before the throne, and before the four living creatures, and the elders, and no one was able to learn the song except the hundred forty-four thousands, who have been bought from the earth; ...</p>	<p><b>first fortress of the pre-Israelite city of Jerusalem.<sup>3</sup> He not only captured it, but established it as his capital. Later it became a virtual synonym for Jerusalem. It is the heavenly Jerusalem, the eternal dwelling place of God and his people. It will one day come down to earth.</b></p>
<p><b>Galatians 4:26</b></p>	<p><b>Revelation 21:2-3</b></p>
<p><sup>26</sup> But the Jerusalem that is above is free, and she is our mother.</p>	<p><sup>2</sup> I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.</p>

**So . . . this prophecy opens this way:**

**4** In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and peoples will stream to it.

**Praise be to God for what He's done and keeps on doing!**

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<sup>3</sup> David captured the fortress of Zion—which is the City of David. 2 Samuel 5:7