

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 4 Part 2²



Jesus is truly “all” and “in all.” And all prophecy points, in one way or another, what God is going to do for us and it’s always what He’s done, is doing, or is going to do “in Him.”

We’re looking at His promise for ‘the mountain of the Lord’s temple’ to be established. And we noted how in the New Testament, all these physical prophecies for Israel became spiritual prophecies fulfilled in Christ and the church. We’ll learn the role of the church as we continue.

¹ **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

Then Jacob called for his sons and said: "Gather around so I can tell you what will happen to you in days to come.

Genesis 49:1

This can refer to the future in general (see text box Scripture) but primarily refers to the Messianic era. In a real sense, the last days began with the first coming of Christ and will be fulfilled at his second coming.

Acts 2:17	Hebrews 1:1-2
¹⁷ "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.	In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.

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.

So people will come to it! It won't have to go to them to recruit! And again, we saw how that referred to the heavenly Jerusalem and Zion.

² Many nations will come and say,

So let's park right here.

In the study notes for Isaiah 2:2-4, which is identical to this verse, it says "the mountain of the Lord" is common in Isaiah.

It occurs in passages that depict the coming of both Jews and Gentiles to Jerusalem (Zion) in the last days.

Galatians 4:26

But the **Jerusalem** that is **above** is free, and she is our mother.

Hebrews 12:22

But you have come to Mount **Zion**, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem.

It cites the following Scriptures as references. I'll list them in a table and see what we can glean from them.

Enjoy!

Isaiah 11:9	Isaiah 27:13	Isaiah 56:7	Isaiah 57:13	Isaiah 65:20
⁹ They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.	¹³ And in that day a great trumpet will sound. Those who were perishing in Assyria and those who were exiled in Egypt will come and worship the LORD on the holy mountain in Jerusalem.	⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."	¹³ When you cry out for help, let your collection of idols save you! The wind will carry all of them off, a mere breath will blow them away. But whoever takes refuge in me will inherit the land and possess my holy mountain."	²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will feed together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox, and dust will be the serpent's food. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain," says the LORD.
Isaiah 66:20	Isaiah 60:3-5		Zechariah 14:16	
²⁰ And they will bring all your people, from all the nations, to my holy mountain in Jerusalem as an offering to the LORD—on horses, in chariots and wagons, and on mules and camels," says the LORD. "They will bring them, as the Israelites bring their grain offerings, to the temple of the LORD in ceremonially clean vessels.	Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ "Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. ⁵ Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come.		Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the Lord Almighty, and to celebrate the Festival of Tabernacles.	

Some believe that the peace described in this passage has been inaugurated through the coming of Christ and the preaching of the Gospel and will be consummated at the return of Christ. Some believe that this is solely a prophecy of conditions during a future reign of Christ on earth.

"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." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

³ He will judge between many peoples
and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide.
They will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.

Plowshares as we know them did not exist in those days. Here what is called a plowshare was actually an iron point mounted on a wooden beam.

But the larger point is that what was used to kill is now going to be used prepare soil for the planting of seed.

I want quickly consider what is said about “swords” in the New Testament.

1. Matthew 26:52

Put your **sword** back in its place,” Jesus said to him, “for all who draw the **sword** will die by the **sword**.”

2. John 18:10

Then Simon Peter, who had a **sword**, drew it and struck the high priest’s servant, cutting off his right ear. (The servant’s name was Malchus.) Jesus commanded Peter, “Put your **sword** away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?”

3. Romans 13:4

For the one in authority is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the **sword** for no reason. They are God’s servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer.

4. Ephesians 6:17

Take the helmet of salvation and the **sword** of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

5. Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged **sword**, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Nation will not take up sword against nation,
nor will they train for war anymore.

Perhaps even verbal war!

⁴ Everyone will sit under their own vine
and under their own fig tree,
and no one will make them afraid,
for the LORD Almighty has spoken.

⁵ All the nations may walk
in the name of their gods,
but we will walk in the name of the LORD
our God for ever and ever.

What a beautiful picture of life in the Lord.