

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*

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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 6 Part 5²



What a beautiful way to live and be!

God wants to act justly.

God wants us to love mercy.

God wants us to walk humbly with our God.

Enjoy today’s study! And enjoy today!

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Micah 6 New International Version

Instead of sacrifices, this is what God wants! We will pick up again on verse 8 today.

⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly (or prudently) with your God.

Here's what the NIV says about this verse.

"This most memorable statement in the OT defining a proper relationship with God." It asks us to consider these Scriptures:

Jeremiah 22: 3, 16	Hosea 6:6	James 1:27
<p>³ This is what the LORD says: Do what is just and right. Rescue from the hand of the oppressor the one who has been robbed. Do no wrong or violence to the foreigner, the fatherless or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place. . . ¹⁶ He defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?" declares the LORD.</p>	<p>⁶ For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.</p>	<p>²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.</p>

Micah here summarizes major themes found in the prophecies of his near contemporaries.

“Act justly”	“Love mercy”	“Walk humbly with your God
Amos 5:24	Hosea 6:6	Isaiah 29:19
²⁴ But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!	⁶ For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.	¹⁹ Once more the humble will rejoice in the LORD; the needy will rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.
Matthew 23:23		
²³ “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.		

Look at the next phrase of interest:

“O mortal”

Let’s look this phrase up in the original.

Micah 6:8 He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly (or prudently) with your God.

Again, the word is “adm” (from which we get the word “Adam.”)

H120 'adam aw-dawm'

from **H119** - to show blood (in the face), i.e. flush or turn rosy.

ruddy i.e. a human being (an individual or the species, mankind, etc.).

By using the phrase “O mortal,” Micah is peaking to all Israel (and perhaps humanity) as a corporate solidarity.

This Scripture is cited in response to this:

Deuteronomy 10:12-13

² And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your

God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to observe the LORD's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

I want to list the things God said He wanted from Israel (from the overcomers with God).

- to fear the LORD your God
- to walk in obedience to him
- to love him
- to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul
- to observe the LORD's commands and decrees

Let me look this up in the original.

^{CLV} Dt 10:12 - Dt 10:13

12 And now, Israel, what is Yahweh your Elohim asking ^fof ^{wi}you, save to fear [»]Yahweh your Elohim, to walk in all His ways, ⁺ to love [»]Him and to serve [»]Yahweh your Elohim ⁱwith all your heart and ⁱwith all your soul,

13 to observe [»]the instructions of Yahweh ⁷your Elohim ^{Qncs}and [»]His statutes ^wthat I am enjoying on you today for your good?

The word for serve is:

H5647 `abad aw-bad'

a primitive root;

to work (in any sense); by implication, to serve, till, (causatively) enslave, etc..

Consider again our focus phrase:

⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the LORD require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy

and to walk humbly (or prudently) with your God.

He wants us to:

**Act justly.
Love mercy.
Walk humbly.**

To love kindness, faithfulness, chesed love. For acting justly, this verse is mentioned.

ZECHARIAH 8:16
¹⁶ These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts

God hates injustice and requires justice.

Zechariah 7:9	Dt 24:17-18	Ps 33:5	Ps 89:14	Ps 99:4
⁹ "This is what the LORD Almighty said: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another.	¹⁷ Do not deprive the foreigner or the fatherless of justice, or take the cloak of the widow as a pledge. ¹⁸ Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the LORD your God redeemed you from there. That is why I command you to do this.	⁵ The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.	Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.	⁴ The King is mighty, he loves justice—you have established equity; in Jacob you have done what is just and right.

Finally, in this verse the prophet says to Israel the Lord is "your" God. That is covenant language which equates with Him call Israel "my" people in verse 3 and 5. It is meant to communicate an intimate covenant relationship as conveyed in this Scripture.

Zechariah 8:8

⁸I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem; they will be **my people**, and I will be faithful and righteous to them as **their God**."

That might be the focus of Scriptural research and discussion next time.