

**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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**Nahum 1 Part 11<sup>2</sup>**



**So think of Nathan the prophet going into a trance like state, or simply a meditative state, and simply, almost randomly saying: “As-straw . . .(he pauses)---they are devoured” . . . “ones being groggy” (PAUSE). . . “And as grog of them!” . . .**

**“Ones-being-entangled briars. . .still (pause)**

**fully dry!” We saw how translators how to wrestle with depicting metaphorical language in linear English. Let’s pick back up with verse 11.**

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

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**Here is something interesting I learned from the footnotes about verse 15. Hebrew editions start chapter 2 here, ending after the “prophetic” vision allusion mentioned in the Introduction. I think that what we may fail to see sometimes is that these prophecies were meant to be heard not just read.**

Nahum 1:11-15 New International Version

<sup>11</sup> From you, Nineveh, has one come forth  
 who plots evil against the LORD  
 and devises wicked plans.

**This is what the study notes say: “Possibly the Assyrian king Ashurbanipal (669-627 B.C.) the last great Assyrian king, whose western expeditions succeeded in succeeding in subduing Egypt and to whom King Manasseh had to submit as a vassal.**

<p><b>2 Chronicles33: 11-13</b></p>	<p><b>In extant non-biblical records there are no references as yet to Manasseh being taken to Babylon by an Assyrian king. Esarshaddon (681 – 669 BC) lists him as one of the kings required to send him material for his building projects. Ashurbanipal</b></p>	<p><b>Ezra 4:9-10</b></p> <p><sup>9</sup> Rehum the commanding officer and Shimshai the secretary, together with the rest of their associates—the judges, officials and administrators over the people from Persia, Uruk and Babylon, the Elamites of Susa, <sup>10</sup> and the other people whom the great and</p>	<p><b>Ashurbanipal was the last great Assyrian king. He was famed for his library at Assyria. He is probably the king who freed Manasseh from exile. He is viewed as possibly the one fulfilling this prophecy of Nahum’s:</b></p> <p><sup>11</sup> From you, Nineveh, has one</p>
<p><sup>11</sup> So the LORD brought against them the army commanders of the king of Assyria, who took Manasseh prisoner, put a hook in his nose, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon. <sup>12</sup> In his distress he sought</p>			

<p>the favor of the LORD his God and humbled himself greatly before the God of his ancestors. <sup>13</sup> And when he prayed to him, the LORD was moved by his entreaty and listened to his plea; so he brought him back to Jerusalem and to his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD is God.</p>	<p><b>(669-627) names him as one of the vassals supporting him in his campaign against Egypt. There was a rebellion and Babylonian defection against Assyria. Manasseh “may” have been a part of that but was pardoned and returned to rule as the Assyrian king deemed he needed a vassal as a buffer between him and Egypt. But this is just speculation.</b></p>	<p>honorable Ashurbanipal deported and settled in the city of Samaria and elsewhere in Trans-Euphrates.</p>	<p>come forth who plots evil against the LORD and devises wicked plans.</p>
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**In response to that, the NIV study bible asks us to consider this verse:**

**Psalm 2**

- <sup>1</sup> Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain?
- <sup>2</sup> The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,
- <sup>3</sup> “Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.”
- <sup>4</sup> The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.

**Footnotes**

- a. **Psalm 2:1** Hebrew; Septuagint *rage*

**And God said this:**

<sup>12</sup> This is what the LORD says:

“Although they have allies and are numerous,  
they will be destroyed and pass away.

**No matter how powerful they are humanly, God will cause them to be “destroyed” and “pass away.”**

**I think this ties in with the concept of chasing evil ones into the realm of darkness. Again, consider.**

**1. We were created out of nothing, but “in” and “by’ Christ.**

Acts 17:28

New International Version

<sup>28</sup> ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

Colossians 1:17

New International Version

<sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

**2. Darkness immediately threatened the primeval creation, but God defeated it with cohesion and consistency.**

Genesis 1 New International Version

**1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of

God was hovering over the waters. <sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

**3. When sin ran rampant, God's righteous being simply naturally consumes it, negates it, unravels it, and stamps it out. That's why when mankind was completely consumed by sin in the book of Genesis, it led to the unraveling of the created order and chaos and the "overwhelming flood" threatened to stamp the created order out of existence.**

Genesis 6

New International Version

**6** When human beings began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, <sup>2</sup> the sons of God saw that the daughters of humans were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. <sup>3</sup> Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with<sup>(a)</sup> humans forever, for they are mortal<sup>(b)</sup>; their days will be a hundred and twenty years."

<sup>4</sup> The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown. <sup>5</sup> The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. <sup>6</sup> The LORD regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled. <sup>7</sup> So the LORD said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them."

**4. Finally, the Greek words for destroy is "apoluo." It means to "loosen, melt, disintegrate." That is consistent with the concept of sin being chased into the realm of nonexistence, or darkness.**

**So that which is against God is destroyed or passes away. We'll pick up here next time.**