

graceWORKS! GOING DEEPER! 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 Paige, Stephanie, and Ashley, and any descendant they have (particularly Nicole, Joey, Matthew, Dylan, Julianne, and Lizzie, who know me as “Papou”). 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 my girls. And when you study these, I’ll make sure to connect with you from heaven. *Ever an orthodox Greek, Jim Valekis*

**ChristIN
YouSeries**

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

graceWORKS! GOING DEEPER

Ezekiel 24 Part 3 Special Focus: THE WRATH of GOD²

So what is God’s wrath? What is He “mad” about?

Why does it have to subside?

I want to look continue to look at this subject today.

Enjoy!

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 study notes that accompany it in The NIV Study Bible, Copyright 1985,1995, 2002, 2008, 2011 are also referenced throughout and paraphrased frequently in the notes.)

Ezekiel 24 New International Version (NIV)

13 “Now your impurity is lewdness. Because I tried to cleanse you but you would not be cleansed from your impurity, you will not be clean again

until my wrath against you has subsided.

THE WRATH OF GOD IN THE NEW TESTAMENT Epistles and Revelation

Romans 1:18

[*God's **Wrath** Against Sinful Humanity*] The **wrath** of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness,

God has wrath. It's revealed against “godlessness” and “wickedness.” Especially against people who suppress truth by their wickedness. The Greek word for wrath here:

G3709 orge or-gay'

properly, desire (as a reaching forth or excitement of the mind), i.e. (by analogy), violent passion (ire, or (justifiable) abhorrence); by implication punishment.

Romans 2:5

But because of your stubbornness and your unrepentant heart, you are storing up **wrath** against yourself for the day of God's **wrath**, when his righteous judgment will be revealed.

There is a day of God's wrath. His righteous judgment will be revealed. This is seen as being God's final Judgment.

Romans 2:8

But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be **wrath** and anger.

There will be wrath! There will be anger (Greek – passion)! On the day of final judgment.

Romans 3:5

But if our unrighteousness brings out God's righteousness more clearly, what shall we say? That God is unjust in bringing his **wrath** on us? (I am using a human argument.)

God is not unjust for bringing his wrath on us! Like the next verse says---how else will he be judging the world. He obviously is judging the world!

^{CLV} Ro 3:5 - Ro 3:6

5 Now if our ^oinjustice is commending God's righteousness, ^awhat shall we ^ldeclare? Not that ^oGod ^oWho is bringing on ^oindignation is unjust! (^{ac}As a ^hman am I saying it.) 6 May it not be ^bcoming [~]to that! Else how shall ^oGod be judging the world?

Romans 4:15

because the law brings **wrath**. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

The law stimulates sin in us. I think it makes us “wrathful,” and sin obviously is something God hates because it hurts us!

Romans 5:9

Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's **wrath** through him!

God's “wrath” against sin will indeed be executed at the judgment. But we will be saved! It's somehow a “saving” wrath!

Romans 9:22

What if God, although choosing to show his **wrath** and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his **wrath**—prepared for destruction?

God apparently wanted to show his wrath and make His power known. As this verse shows, He's done that through different figures in history (Pharaoh, Esau, others).

Romans 12:19

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's **wrath**, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord.

We are not to take revenge. God Himself will deal with vengeance, appropriately.

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.

There is a place for appropriate wrath.

Ephesians 2:3

All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of **wrath**.

I believe the literal Greek translation says “children of wrath.”

Ephesians 5:6

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's **wrath** comes on those who are disobedient.

This Scripture references Zechariah 1:2 which says “The Lord is very angry with your ancestors.”

Colossians 3:6

Because of these, the **wrath** of God is coming.

God’s wrath “comes.” “Is coming.” Not just in future. I think it comes now!

1 Thessalonians 1:10

and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming **wrath**.

There is a coming wrath from which we will be rescued.

1 Thessalonians 2:16

in their effort to keep us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved. In this way they always heap up their sins to the limit. The **wrath** of God has come upon them at last.

The NIV note says this is the “eschatological” wrath. It is spoken of as already present. NIV speculates that “it had been partially experienced by the Jews” or it was spoken in this way “because of its absolute certainty.”

1 Thessalonians 5:9

For God did not appoint us to suffer **wrath** but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The opposite of suffering wrath is to receive salvation.

Revelation 6:16

They called to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who sits on the throne and from the **wrath** of the Lamb!

Revelation 6:17

For the great day of their **wrath** has come, and who can withstand it?”

Revelation 11:18

The nations were angry, and your **wrath** has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your people who revere your name, both great and small— and for destroying those who destroy the earth.”

Revelation 14:10

they, too, will drink the wine of God’s fury, which has been poured full strength into the cup of his **wrath**. They will be tormented with burning sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and of the Lamb.

Revelation 14:19

The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God’s **wrath**.

Revelation 15:1

[*Seven Angels With Seven Plagues*] I saw in heaven another great and marvelous sign: seven angels with the seven last plagues—last, because with them God’s **wrath** is completed.

In the book of Revelation, we see a discussion of the great day of God’s wrath, and God’s wrath finally coming and being completed.

I can’t claim to fully understand exactly how all this plays out. But I can say this.

1. God hates sin and anything that hurts his people.

2. His wrath is real and is coming.

3. It has to be completed.

There is the verse in the song that says on Christ the “wrath of God was satisfied.”

I guess in all honesty I love my God, and I don’t want to incur His wrath. So I’m going to do my best to please Him. And in His Son, we’re all doing exactly that!

Footnotes:

1. **Ezekiel 24:23** Or *away in*

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.