

**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)**

<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

**graceWORKS! GOING DEEPER**

**Ezekiel 27 <sup>2</sup>**

It has been a joy to go through the prophecy of Tyre again, since it was one of my earliest forays into deep Scriptural study. Last time we learned how “many nations” would be involved in her destruction, and the prophecy’s fulfillment was begun by Nebuchadnezzar and finished by Alexander the Great, who destroyed the city in a way that was amazingly in sync with the words prophesied. Now Tyre is going to be used metaphorically, eventually, as a platform from which we learn why Satan fell. It begins in 27:1. Enjoy!

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

<sup>2</sup> 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 source for many of the study notes that accompany it, are taken from The NIV Study Bible, Copyright 1985,1995, 2002, 2008, 2011 . These notes re referenced throughout and paraphrased frequently in the notes.)

2 Samuel 1:17-27

17 David took up this lament concerning Saul and his son Jonathan, 18 and he ordered that the people of Judah be taught this lament of the bow (it is written in the Book of Jashar):

**This is an early account of Israel's wars, perhaps all poetic, now lost. Being a "lament of the bow" meant that David taught his men to sing this while they practiced with the bow, as a motivation to master the weapon thoroughly so they would never experience a similar defeat.**

19 "A gazelle lies slain on your heights, Israel. How the mighty have fallen!

20 "Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon, lest the daughters of the Philistines be glad, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised rejoice.

21 "Mountains of Gilboa, may you have neither dew nor rain, may no showers fall on your terraced fields.

For there the shield of the mighty was despised, the shield of Saul—no longer rubbed with oil.

22 "From the blood of the slain, from the flesh of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, the sword of Saul did not return unsatisfied.

23 Saul and Jonathan— in life they were loved and admired, and in death they were not parted. They were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions.

24 "Daughters of Israel, weep for Saul, who clothed you in scarlet and finery, who adorned your garments with ornaments of gold.

25 "How the mighty have fallen in battle! Jonathan lies slain on your heights.

26 I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother; you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women.

27 "How the mighty have fallen!  
The weapons of war have perished!"

## Ezekiel 27 New International Version (NIV)

### A Lament Over Tyre

The NIV study notes that a lament is a chant usually composed for funerals or for fallen leaders. A famous one was one composed by David at the downfall of Saul. I'll include it in the sidebar.

27 The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“Son of man, take up a lament concerning Tyre. <sup>3</sup>Say to Tyre, situated at the gateway to the sea, merchant of peoples on many coasts, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says:

“‘You say, Tyre,  
“I am perfect in beauty.”

**I believe Tyre thought this about herself. She had given herself completely to the ways of this world. She was part of the devil's authority he himself described to Jesus in this verse in Luke 4:**

...the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> ...all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. <sup>7</sup> If you worship me, it will all be yours.”

**Eventually, this perception of perfection in beauty will be shown to have deeper roots than she realizes---God will through a prophecy coming unmask the real source of this arrogance and pride, Satan himself. That's what the prophecy in Ezekiel 28 refers to, in my opinion. But for now, we'll see where this attitude led this ancient city.**

<sup>4</sup>Your domain was on the high seas;  
your builders brought your beauty to perfection.

**Verse 11 below speaks of shields being hung around her walls. While I know our technology has produced some amazing things, there was sumptuousness and beauty to the ancient world that speaks of the amazing creative ability God gave mankind. Think of the splendor of King Tut's tomb, the glories of ancient Greece.**

**Below is a fascinating glimpse of that sumptuousness.**

<sup>5</sup> They made all your timbers of juniper from Senir<sup>[a]</sup>;

**This is Mount Hermon in Lebanon. It was famed for cedar.**

they took a cedar from Lebanon  
to make a mast for you.

<sup>6</sup> Of oaks from Bashan

**Bashan apparently was a rich pastureland east of the Sea of Galilee known for its sleek cattle.**

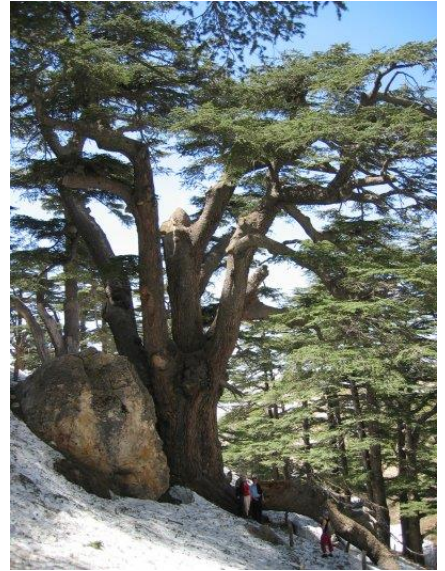


Figure 1 Cedar of Lebanon

Originally uploaded on de:wiki  
as by **de:Benutzer:Mpeylo**

Deuteronomy 32:14	Psalms 22:12	Amos 4:1
14 with curds and milk from herd and flock and with fattened lambs and goats, with choice rams of Bashan and the finest kernels of wheat. You drank the foaming blood of the grape.	12 Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.	Hear this word, you cows of Bashan on Mount Samaria, you women who oppress the poor and crush the needy and say to your husbands, "Bring us some drinks!"

they made your oars;  
of cypress wood from the coasts of Cyprus

**Cyprus was known as "Kittim" originally in Hebrew. It was a town in southern Cyprus colonized by the Phoenicians.**

**H3794** Kittiy kit-tee'

or Kittiyiy {kit-tee-ee'};

paternal from an unused name denoting Cyprus (only in the plural); a Kittite or Cypriote; hence, an islander in general, i.e. the Greeks or Romans on the shores opposite Palestine.

they made your deck, adorned with ivory.

**Below is an actual ancient depiction of a Phoenician ship.**



[http://exploration.marinersmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2014/04/Phoenician\\_ship.jpg](http://exploration.marinersmuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/2014/04/Phoenician_ship.jpg)

**I can just imagine the sumptuousness. Visualize the colors. Below is a replica of a Phoenician ship that sailed 20,000 miles!** Phoenician Ship under sail in the North Atlantic. Courtesy Phoenicia Ship Expedition<sup>3</sup>



<sup>7</sup> Fine embroidered linen from Egypt was your sail  
and served as your banner;  
your awnings were of blue and purple from the coasts of Elishah.

**A city on the east side of Cyprus.**

<sup>8</sup> Men of Sidon and Arvad were your oarsmen;

**Arvad was another island city off the coast of Sidon.**

your skilled men, Tyre, were

aboard as your sailors.

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<sup>3</sup> Used by permission from article at this website: <https://ferrelljenkins.blog/2010/10/18/replica-phoenician-ship-completes-20000-mile-voyage/>

<sup>9</sup> Veteran craftsmen of Byblos were on board  
as shipwrights to caulk your seams.

**Biblos was another important ancient city on the coast between Arvad and Sidon. Christ preached in these areas. They were places of deep antiquity. But notice the amazing things they did---they knew how to caulk seams, inlay ivory, make awnings, dye fabric.**



All the ships of the sea and their sailors  
came alongside to trade for your wares.

**An ancient shipwreck was discovered off the coast of Malta that showed the trading power of these people. <sup>4</sup>**

<sup>10</sup> “Men of Persia, Lydia and Put  
served as soldiers in your army.

**The word translated Persia is “Paras” and its  
identification is uncertain. Lydia is in Asia Minor**

**(Turkey). Put is Libya in Africa.**

**Now the description is going to shift from a ship to a city.**

**Tyre will now be described literally.**

**I have observed that prophecies seem like dreams!**

**They shift from one image to the next.**

**You can’t read them like you read a newspaper article. You have to accept these seemingly inexplicable shifts, and run with them.**

**In that spirit, let’s continue.**

They hung their shields and helmets on your walls,  
bringing you splendor.

<sup>11</sup> Men of Arvad and Helek  
guarded your walls on every side;  
men of Gammad  
were in your towers.

They hung their shields around your walls;  
they brought your beauty to perfection.

<sup>12</sup> “Tarshish did business with you because of your great wealth of goods; they exchanged silver, iron, tin and lead for your merchandise.

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<sup>4</sup> Photo: © Groplan project/Timmy Gambin, University of Malta.

<sup>13</sup> “Greece, Tubal and Meshek did business with you; they traded human beings and articles of bronze for your wares.

**They traded human beings. Wow.**

<sup>14</sup> “Men of Beth Togarmah exchanged chariot horses, cavalry horses and mules for your merchandise.

<sup>15</sup> “The men of Rhodes<sup>[e]</sup> traded with you, and many coastlands were your customers; they paid you with ivory tusks and ebony.

<sup>16</sup> “Aram<sup>[d]</sup> did business with you because of your many products; they exchanged turquoise, purple fabric, embroidered work, fine linen, coral and rubies for your merchandise.

<sup>17</sup> “Judah and Israel traded with you; they exchanged wheat from Minnith and confections,<sup>[e]</sup> honey, olive oil and balm for your wares.

<sup>18</sup> “Damascus did business with you because of your many products and great wealth of goods. They offered wine from Helbon, wool from Zahar<sup>19</sup> and casks of wine from Izal in exchange for your wares: wrought iron, cassia and calamus.

<sup>20</sup> “Dedan traded in saddle blankets with you.

**I like the CLV version for this that is listed my literal Hebrew resource on this: “Dedan was your trader for free flowing cloaks for riding.”**

<sup>21</sup> “Arabia and all the princes of Kedar were your customers; they did business with you in lambs, rams and goats.

<sup>22</sup> “The merchants of Sheba and Raamah traded with you; for your merchandise they exchanged the finest of all kinds of spices and precious stones, and gold.

<sup>23</sup> “Harran, Kanneh and Eden and merchants of Sheba, Ashur and Kilmad traded with you. <sup>24</sup> In your marketplace they traded with you beautiful garments, blue fabric, embroidered work and multicolored rugs with cords twisted and tightly knotted.

**Here is the CLV on this. It is so poetic.**

[\(CLV\) Ezk 27:24](#)

They were your traders<sup>l</sup> for things consummate, <sup>i</sup> folds of blue cloth and embroidery, and <sup>i</sup> carpets of rich fabric bound up<sup>l</sup> with cord lines and long lasting, your traders<sup>l</sup> for these.

**They wanted fine things that were “long lasting” like we do.**

**Let’s do a quick summary to show how sumptuous their lifestyle was.**

silver, iron, tin, lead, human beings, articles of bronze, chariot horses, cavalry horses, mules, ivory tusks, ebony, turquoise, purple fabric, embroidered work, fine linen, coral, rubies, wheat, confections, honey, olive oil, balm, wine, casks of wine, wrought iron, cassia, calamus, saddle blankets, lambs, rams, goats, spices, precious stones, gold, beautiful garments, blue fabric, embroidered work, multicolored rugs with cords twisted and tightly knotted

**Again like it said in Luke 4: “The kingdoms of this world . . . and their splendor.**

<sup>25</sup> “The ships of Tarshish serve as carriers for your wares. You are filled with heavy cargo as you sail the sea.  
<sup>26</sup> Your oarsmen take you out to the high seas. But the east wind will break you to pieces far out at sea.  
<sup>27</sup> Your wealth, merchandise and wares, your mariners, sailors and shipwrights, your merchants and all your soldiers, and everyone else on board will sink into the heart of the sea on the day of your shipwreck.  
<sup>28</sup> The shorelands will quake when your sailors cry out.  
<sup>29</sup> All who handle the oars will abandon their ships; the mariners and all the sailors will stand on the shore.  
<sup>30</sup> They will raise their voice and cry bitterly over you; they will sprinkle dust on their heads and roll in ashes.  
<sup>31</sup> They will shave their heads because of you and will put on sackcloth. They will weep over you with anguish of soul

“When the kings of the earth who committed adultery with her and shared her luxury see the smoke of her burning, they will weep and mourn over her. <sup>10</sup> Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry:

“Woe! Woe to you, great city, you mighty city of Babylo In one hour your doom has come!”

<sup>11</sup> “The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes anymore—  
<sup>12</sup> cargoes of gold, silver, precious stones and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of citron wood, and articles of every kind made of ivory, costly wood, bronze, iron and marble; <sup>13</sup> cargoes of cinnamon and spice, of incense, myrrh and frankincense, of wine and olive oil, of fine flour and wheat; cattle and sheep; horses and carriages; and human beings sold as slaves. <sup>14</sup> “They will say, ‘The fruit you longed for is gone from you. All your luxury and splendor have vanished, never to be recovered.’ <sup>15</sup> The merchants who sold these things and gained their wealth from her will stand far off, terrified at her torment. They will weep and mourn <sup>16</sup> and cry out:

“Woe! Woe to you, great city, dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet, and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls! <sup>17</sup> In one hour such great wealth has been brought to ruin!”

“Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off. <sup>18</sup> When they see the smoke of her burning, they will exclaim, ‘Was there ever a city like this great city?’  
<sup>19</sup> They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out:

“Woe! Woe to you, great city, where all who had ships on the sea became rich through her wealth! In one hour she has been brought to ruin!”

<sup>20</sup> “Rejoice over her, you heavens! Rejoice, you people of God! Rejoice, apostles and prophets! For God has judged her with the judgment she imposed on you.”

and with bitter mourning.  
<sup>32</sup> As they wail and mourn over you,  
they will take up a lament concerning you:  
“Who was ever silenced like Tyre,  
surrounded by the sea?”  
<sup>33</sup> When your merchandise went out on the seas,  
you satisfied many nations;  
with your great wealth and your wares  
you enriched the kings of the earth.  
<sup>34</sup> Now you are shattered by the sea  
in the depths of the waters;  
your wares and all your company  
have gone down with you.  
<sup>35</sup> All who live in the coastlands  
are appalled at you;  
their kings shudder with horror  
and their faces are distorted with fear.  
<sup>36</sup> The merchants among the nations scoff at you;  
you have come to a horrible end  
and will be no more.”

**Wow. Just like they lamented for Babylon in Revelation 18, they lament for Tyre.**

**What a comedown. We'll see what happens next.**

*Footnotes:*

1. **Ezekiel 27:5** That is, Mount Hermon
2. **Ezekiel 27:6** Targum; the Masoretic Text has a different division of the consonants.
3. **Ezekiel 27:15** Septuagint; Hebrew *Dedan*
4. **Ezekiel 27:16** Most Hebrew manuscripts; some Hebrew manuscripts and Syriac *Edom*
5. **Ezekiel 27:17** The meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain.