

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 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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Ezekiel 36 Part 2²



I love sightings of the New Covenant in the Old Testament. Speaking to the people in language appropriate to their day, God explains things that would be coming. No longer would the Israelites live by the law or by the Tree of Knowledge. They would live in the love of God, in the life giving life of God, by the Tree of Life---Jesus.

This chapter speaks of a restoration of Israel, and a spiritual/physical “wholing” and “healing.” Let’s revel in the words and do our best to understand. Enjoy!

¹ NOT TO BE REPRODUCED OR UPLOADED TO WEB WITHOUT EXPRESS PERMISSION OF AUTHOR.

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Ezekiel 36 New International Version (NIV)

16 Again the word of the LORD came to me: 17 “Son of man, when the people of Israel were living in their own land, they defiled it by their conduct and their actions.

Ok. So the first things that stands out to me are the words “conduct” and “actions.” I wanted to look them up in the Hebrew. First, let’s look at a picture of this verse in the Hebrew. It’s a little hard to wade through, but beautifully poetic.

CLV

Son of humanity, the house of Israel when dwelling on their ground +^a defiled ^ait by their ^{way}conduct and by their practices; their ^{way}conduct ^bseemed before Me like the uncleanness of an isolated woman.

וַיִּטְמְאוּ	עַל־אֲדָמָתָם	יִשְׂרָאֵל יֹשְׁבֵי	בֵּית	אָדָם	בֶּן	36:17
u-itmau	admth·m - ol	ishbim ishral	bith	adm -	bn	
and-they-are- ^m defiling	ground-of-them	on ones-dwelling	Israel	house-of	human	son-of
הָיְתָה	הַנִּדְּוָה	כְּטִמְאָתָם	וּבְעִלְלוֹתָם	בְּדַרְכֵּם	אוֹתָהּ	
eithe	e·nde	k·tmath	u·b·oliluth·m	b·drk·m	auth·e	
she-becomes	the-isolated-woman	as·uncleanness-of	and·in·practices-of-them	in-way-of-them	»·her	
				לְפָנַי	דַּרְכֵּם	
				l·phn·i	drk·m	
				to·faces-of·me	way-of-them	

First, I like for one God’s calling Ezekiel “Son of humanity.”

Secondly, what gets translated “conduct” and “actions” are:

CONDUCT

“in-way-of-them”

H1870 derek deh'-rek

from **H1869**;

a road (as trodden); figuratively, a course of life or mode of action, often adverb.

I like that picture. Your life conduct is your life “way”---a road as trodden, your daily paths, your way! Consider your way, the Scripture says. Make “balanced” ways, we learned.

ACTIONS

H5949 `aliylah al-ee-law'

or malilah {al-ee-law'};

from **H5953** in the sense of effecting; an exploit (of God), or a performance (of man, often in a bad sense); by implication, an opportunity.

So a conduct is a life “path” you chose. An action is something you “effect,” make happen. Two things to consider.

Their conduct was like a woman’s monthly uncleanness in my sight.

Wow. Ezekiel is very open about what seems like acknowledgment of human sexuality. I wonder if they weren’t so freaked out about it as our culture is---to make it either “taboo” and “a sin” to consider, like we do. They seemed to acknowledge sexual reality and it not be that big a deal.

18 So I poured out my wrath on them because they had shed blood in the land and because they had defiled it with their idols. 19 I dispersed them among the nations, and they were scattered through the countries; I judged them according to their conduct and their actions. 20 And wherever they went among the nations they profaned my holy name, for it was said of them, ‘These are the LORD’s people, and yet they had to leave his land.’ 21 I had concern for my holy name, which the people of Israel profaned among the nations where they had gone.

God loves us all. We were created by Him. We were created “for” Him!

1 Corinthians 8:6

yet **for** us there is but one God, the Father, from **whom** all things came and **for whom** we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, **through whom** all things came and **through whom** we live.

Hebrews 2:10

In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, **for whom** and **through whom** everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect **through** what he suffered.

We exist both from Him and through Him. We were made for His glory.

Revelation 4:11 King James Version (KJV)

¹¹ Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

CLV

"Worthy art Thou, O Lord, our *Lord and *God, To ^lget *glory and *honor and *power; ^fFor Thou/ dost create *all, And because of Thy *will they were, and are created."

4:11	αξιος	ει	κυριε	ο	κυριος	και	ο	θεος	ημων	λαβειν
	axios	ei	kurie	ho	kurios	kai	ho	theos	hEmOn	labein
	WORTHY	YOU-ARE-BEING	Master!	THE	Master	AND	THE	God (PLACER)	OF-US	TO-BE-GETTING
	worthy	you-are	Lord!	the	Lord	and	the	God	of-us	to-be-getting

την	δοξαν	και	την	τιμην	και	την	δυναμιν	οτι	συ	εκτισας	τα	παντα	και
tEn	doxan	kai	tEn	timEn	kai	tEn	dunamin	hoti	su	ektisas	ta	panta	kai
THE	esteem	AND	THE	VALUE	AND	THE	ABILITY	that	YOU	YOU-CREATE	THE ^(p)	ALL	AND
the	glory	and	the	honor	and	the	power	that	you	create	the	all	and

δια	το	θελημα	σου	ησαν	και	εκτισθησαν
dia	to	thelEma	sou	Esan	kai	ektisthEsan
THRU	THE	WILL	OF-YOU	THEY-WERE	AND	THEY-ARE-CREATED
because-of	the	will	of-you	they-were	and	are-created

And you know what God’s pleasure is? To give us His kingdom!

Luke 12:32 King James Version (KJV)

³² Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

22 “Therefore say to the Israelites, ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: It is not for your sake, people of Israel, that I am going to do these things, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations where you have gone. 23 I will show the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, the name you have profaned among them. Then the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Sovereign LORD, when I am proved holy through you before their eyes.

That gets down to the essence of it. To be proved holy “through them.” God radiates His Holiness through us! We are participants in the Divine Nature!

24 “For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land.

First thing mentioned: Return of the exiles.

25 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols.

Second thing: Cleansing. Sprinkling of water as an act of cleansing is mentioned in several places in the Scripture, and of course is pictured by baptism.

2 Peter 1:4 (NIV)

⁴ Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature,

Exodus 30:19-20	Leviticus 14:51	Numbers 19:18	Zechariah 13:1	Hebrews 10:22
<p>¹⁹ For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat:</p> <p>²⁰ When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not; or when they come near to the altar to minister, to burn offering made by fire unto the LORD:</p> <p>This occurred before Aaron went into the Tabernacle.</p>	<p>⁵¹ And he shall take the cedar wood, and the hyssop, and the scarlet, and the living bird, and dip them in the blood of the slain bird, and in the running water, and sprinkle the house seven times:</p> <p>This occurred if a house had been contaminated by mold.</p>	<p>¹⁸ And a clean person shall take hyssop, and dip it in the water, and sprinkle it upon the tent, and upon all the vessels, and upon the persons that were there, and upon him that touched a bone, or one slain, or one dead, or a grave:</p> <p>This occurred if a home had been defiled by a dead body.</p>	<p>13 In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness.</p> <p>A prophesy of the future cleansing made possible by Christ.</p>	<p>²² let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.</p> <p>Hearts sprinkled and bodies washed refer to Christ and baptism.</p>

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

This is a miraculous transformation. Knowledge doesn't effectuate this. God does.

27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

God bestows His Spirit to us. We participate in the very life of God.

28 Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God. 29 I will save you from all your uncleanness. I will call for the grain and make it plentiful and will not bring famine upon you. 30 I will increase the fruit of the trees and the crops of the field, so that you will no longer suffer disgrace among the nations because of famine. 31 Then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds, and you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices. 32 I want you to know that I am not doing this for your sake, declares the Sovereign LORD. Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct, people of Israel!

33 “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: On the day I cleanse you from all your sins, I will resettle your towns, and the ruins will be rebuilt. 34 The desolate land will be cultivated instead of lying desolate in the sight of all who pass through it. 35 They will say, “This land that was laid waste has become like the garden of Eden; the cities that were lying in ruins, desolate and destroyed, are now fortified and inhabited.” 36 Then the nations around you that remain will know that I the LORD have rebuilt what was destroyed and have replanted what was desolate. I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.’

37 “This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Once again I will yield to Israel’s plea and do this for them: I will make their people as numerous as sheep, 38 as numerous as the flocks for offerings at Jerusalem during her appointed festivals. So will the ruined cities be filled with flocks of people. Then they will know that I am the LORD.”

And this people will live like “living sacrifices” to the Lord.

Romans 12 New International Version (NIV)

12 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. **Word for worship:**

G3000 latreuo lat-ryoo'-o from latris (a hired menial); to minister (to God), i.e. render religious homage.