

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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Ezekiel 42 Wrap Up²



I had an early day on the road today. It shortened my time to do a long written study, but I listened to Ezekiel 42 – 48 on the YOU Bible app on my cell phone. I know that Jesus Christ has replaced all sacrifices, all offerings, and God and the Lamb are our perfect temple. But the Lord has given us this amazing building to consider, and many of the alliterations made here show up at the end of the book of Revelation. I’m going to do a quickie written study on one concept left undone from my study of Ezekiel 42---the separation of “common and unclean.”

Here goes! Enjoy.

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Ezekiel 42

Here's where I left off yesterday.

¹⁵ When he had finished measuring what was inside the temple area, he led me out by the east gate and measured the area all around:



Photo Credit Bronze Angel dreamstime_m_168332963

Again, remember the story here. A man whose appearance was like bronze (40:3) is taking Ezekiel on a journey of the ideal Temple the resurrected Israelites (Ezekiel 37, all of them!) are going to have as the basis of their worship and world.

¹⁶ He measured the east side with the measuring rod; it was five hundred cubits. ¹⁷ He measured the north side; it was five hundred cubits by the measuring rod. ¹⁸ He measured the south side; it was five hundred cubits by the measuring rod. ¹⁹ Then he turned to the west side and measured; it was five hundred cubits by the measuring rod. ²⁰ So he measured the area on all four sides. It had a wall around it, five hundred cubits long and five hundred cubits wide, to separate the holy from the common.

There was perfect symmetry in the ideal holy temple's total area.

It had a wall around it, to separate the holy from the common. That's a subject worth exploring.

The Hebrew word for common is translated "profane" in an interlinear I use, and it stems from this:

H2455 chol khole

from **H2490**;

properly, exposed; hence, profane.

This word stems from H2490 which means:

H2490 chalal khaw-lal'

a primitive root (compare **H2470**);

properly, to bore, i.e. (by implication) to wound, to dissolve; figuratively, to profane (a person, place or thing), to break (one's word), to begin (as if by an "opening wedge");

On the other hand, here is the word for holy:

H6944 qodesh ko'-desh

from **H6942**;

a sacred place or thing; rarely abstract, sanctity.

It's root word is H6942.

H6942 qadash kaw-dash'

a primitive root;

to be (causatively, make, pronounce or observe as) clean (ceremonially or morally).

Common didn't necessarily mean unclean. But it wasn't "set apart." It was open, general, shared by all. Remember word conveys the concept of "profane."

Here are some bible verses that speak to it.

Leviticus 10:10

so that you can distinguish between the holy and the **common**, between the unclean and the clean,

It is called out several times by Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 22:26

Her priests do violence to my law and profane my holy things; they do not distinguish between the holy and the **common**; they teach that there is no difference between the unclean and the clean; and they shut their eyes to the keeping of my Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them.

Ezekiel 42:20

So he measured the area on all four sides. It had a wall around it, five hundred cubits long and five hundred cubits wide, to separate the holy from the **common**.

Ezekiel 44:23

They are to teach my people the difference between the holy and the **common** and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean.

It’s used in the New Testament in this story in the King James Version.

Acts 10

¹¹ And **[Peter]** saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending upon him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:

¹² Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.

¹³ And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.

¹⁴ But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.

Something is common “as in something that is shared commonly among people.”³

Acts 2:44	Acts 4:32	Titus 1:4	Jude 3 (YLT)
⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common.	³² All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.	To Titus, my true son in our common faith:	3 Beloved, all diligence using to write to you concerning the common salvation, I had necessity to write to you, exhorting to agonize for the faith once delivered to the saints,

What is God teaching us as New Testament believers in Christ.

Well for one, we are incredibly holy.

³ <https://hoshanarabbah.org/blog/2015/06/13/common-and-unclean-explained/>

Romans 1:7

To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his **holy** people: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 12:1

[*A Living Sacrifice*] 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.

1 Corinthians 1:2

To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his **holy** people, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

Ephesians 1:4

For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be **holy** and blameless in his sight. In love

Speaking of us as the Temple of God, the New Testament says this:

Ephesians 2:19-22 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁹Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²²And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 4:4

that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is **holy** and honorable,

2 Timothy 1:9

He has saved us and called us to a **holy** life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time,

1 Peter 1:15

But just as he who called you is **holy**, so be **holy** in all you do;

I take this from this. We as God's perfect Temple, symmetrically and amazingly built and built upon the foundation of the Apostles and the Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, we are holy!

And we need to distinguish that. We are no longer common. But holy, and meant to give all people the holiness they too are entitled too in God's sight.