

God is Jealous (Qanna) ... and why that's absolutely amazing

God reveals Himself after the golden calf

- Exodus 32: Golden Calf
- Exodus 33: Moses intercedes
- Exodus 34: Moses cuts new tablets and goes back up the mountain

Exodus 34:6-9 – Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished” ... Moses made haste to bow low toward the earth and worship. He said, “If now I have found favor in Your sight, O Lord, I pray, let the Lord go along in our midst, even though the people are so obstinate, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us as Your own possession.”

– God renews the covenant

Exodus 34:12-15 – “Watch yourself that you make no covenant with the inhabitants of the land into which you are going, or it will become a snare in your midst. But rather, you are to tear down their altars and smash their sacred pillars and cut down their Asherim—for you shall not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God—otherwise you might make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land and they would play the harlot with their gods and sacrifice to their gods ...”

Exodus 34:14 – ... for you shall not worship any other god, **for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God** ...

God is Jealous (5x)

Exodus 20:4-6 – You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; **for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God**, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Exodus 34:14 – ... for you shall not worship any other god, **for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God** ...

Deuteronomy 4:24 – For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, **a jealous God**.

Deuteronomy 5:9 – You shall not make for yourself an idol ... You shall not worship them or serve them; **for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God** ...

Deuteronomy 6:14-15 – You shall not follow other gods, any of the gods of the peoples who surround you, for the LORD your God in the midst of you **is a jealous God**; otherwise the anger of the LORD your God will be kindled against you, and He will wipe you off the face of the earth.

– If He wasn't a jealous God, we would be destroyed

Dan McConaughy – Where would we be if God was not Jealous?

Jealousy

- we have a low view of jealousy (associate it with envy or anger)
 - Envy is an ardent desire to gain possession of something you don't currently possess
 - Books on the topic usually show even Godly jealousy as a negative

Jealousy is often seen as a negative attribute and the result of personal and/or relational insecurity. As such, we presume God must be an insecure and likely an abusive God. But godly jealousy (whether in God or humans) is not a negative but a positive attribute. Without godly jealousy we become passive and thus prone to idolatry, adultery, and other threats to our relationships.

- 90 times used in Scripture (approximately) – 64 positive (46 humans having Godly jealousy)
 - Sometimes translated zeal (ardent desire to see a particular desire come about)
- Jealous in Hebrew is both a noun and an adjective
 - it is God's nature and character ... and His Name

Exodus 34:14 – ... for you shall not worship any other god, **for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God ...**

- Yahweh (was, is, forever will be) jealous
- He is actively jealous
- the reason we are not to have any other idols is because He is a jealous God

Jealousy (*literal understanding*) – the ardent desire to maintain exclusive devotion within a relationship in the face of a challenge to that exclusive devotion

- wanting something that is yours
- always requires a relationship

Requirements of Jealousy

- a lover
- a beloved
- a covenant relationship (usually marked by love)
- and a threat or violation of a threat to that covenant

Jealousy - Will I rise up and protect the relationship?

God is jealous ... and that's a good thing

God is glorified by the faithfulness of His people and therefore He responds with jealousy to their unfaithfulness

- Unfaithfulness between husband and wife = adultery
- Unfaithfulness between God and people = adultery or idolatry

» main declaration from prophets is “repent”

- Hosea, Ezekiel

Jealousy is distinctly tied to love

- thus why did He come (John 3:16) - because He was jealous for His people

God says He is jealous to the extent that it is His name. He is love and when anything attempts to bring a threat against His covenantal love, out of a pure, good, and godly jealousy, He will rise up, judge, and remove that threat. And because jealousy is a part of His

character and nature, and He lives within us, it should also be a part of our nature—to stand against any threat to the purity and simplicity of devotion to Christ.

We should be jealous for our God

Phinehas - grandson of Aaron; ruler of the temple gatekeepers, commander of the army who fought against Midianites, protector of worship in Israel when the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half tribe of Manasseh built their own altar; defender of God's honor and war counselor against Benjamites and Levite concubine, spoken on the same level as Moses and David throughout Hebrew history

Numbers 25:6-8 –Then behold, one of the sons of Israel came and brought near to his brothers a Midianite woman, in the sight of Moses and in the sight of all the congregation of the sons of Israel, while they were weeping at the doorway of the tent of meeting. And Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, so he arose from the midst of the congregation and took a spear in his hand, and he went after the man of Israel into the tent and pierced both of them through, the man of Israel and the woman, through the body. Then the plague on the sons of Israel was checked.

Psalm 106:28-31 – They then joined themselves to Baal-peor, and ate sacrifices offered to the dead. Thus they provoked Him to anger with their actions, and the plague broke out among them. Then Phinehas stood up and interceded, and so the plague was checked. and it was counted to him for righteousness, from generation to generation forever.

1 Corinthians 10:8, 11 – Nor let us act in sexual immorality, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in one day. ... Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have arrived.

David

Saul called Goliath a man and a warrior ... David calls him an uncircumcised Philistine who has defied the armies of the living God (jealousy) ... when David killed Goliath it says he removed the disgrace from Israel

1 Samuel 17:26 – Then David spoke to the men who were standing by him, saying, "What will be done for the man who strikes down this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should reproach the battle lines of the living God?"

Paul

2 Corinthians 11:2-3 – For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy, for I betrothed you to one husband, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to Christ. But I fear that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be corrupted from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.

Jealous against the threat of idolatry

Jealousy – the ardent desire to maintain exclusive devotion within a relationship in the face of a challenge to that exclusive devotion

Requirements of Jealousy

- a lover
- a beloved
- a covenant relationship (usually marked by love)
- and a threat or violation of a threat to that covenant

Jealousy - Will I rise up and protect the relationship?

Jealousy for God's name, character, reputation, and honor will cause us to be extremely devoted to Christ, profoundly pure, deeply humble, increasing in holiness ... and we won't wander or pursue another god or affection.

Idolatry – looking to anyone or anything besides Jesus to meet my needs.

» Will I be jealous and guard against any threat to my relationship with Christ?