

# God is Jealous

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For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God: (Exodus 34:14)

For the LORD thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God. (Deuteronomy 4:24)

I. Jealousy has become a bad word and a negative characteristic in our modern ungodly society.

A. It is used as a synonym for envy by most people.

B. In fact, it is used to describe what is really envy and not jealousy at all.

To envy is to feel uneasiness, mortification or discontent, at the sight of superior excellence, reputation or happiness enjoyed by another; to repine at another's prosperity; to fret or grieve one's self at the real or supposed superiority of another, and to hate him on that account.

C. God does not envy anyone or anything, but God is jealous over what is his.

To be jealous is to be apprehensive; anxious; suspiciously watchful; Demanding exclusive devotion; intolerant of rivalry. Disposed to suspect rivalry in matters of interest and affection; apprehensive regarding the motives of possible rivals, or the fidelity of friends; painfully suspicious of the faithfulness of husband, wife, or lover.

D. God has chosen himself a people from the human race - they are called "the elect" and they are those who have believed in Him - and He is jealous over them.

1. God considers them to be his wife and uses this relationship to convey to mankind his feelings about their unfaithfulness.

E. Jealousy is pain mixed with the most vehement anger that can be experienced.

F. True jealousy is based in righteousness - not in selfishness.

G. A man who covets another man's wife is envious - not jealous, and he is violating the law of God by doing this.

1. What the husband feels toward the man that covets his wife is jealousy, and this is not a violation of God's law, but rather is a righteous thing.

II. God's view is that those He has redeemed from destruction are his - not by constraint, but by mutual love.

I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine: ... (Song of Solomon 6:3)

Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD; for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion: (Jeremiah 3:14)

For thy Maker is thine husband; the LORD of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called. (Isaiah 54:5)

A. This has been the view of all who are godly and understand life in view of God who created all things.

B. It is this wicked, perverted world that always wants to deny these truths about the relationship between man and wife and break down God's order and example.

C. When a man and a woman make a marriage covenant they are gifting themselves one to another.

1. She becomes his and he becomes hers.

2. The very purpose of the covenant is to set each other in first place in the life of their spouse.
  3. The vows and promises are all about giving the assurance that no one or no thing is ever going to be more important to me than you.
- D. When a man gives himself like this to a woman he then deserves for her to be his.
  - E. When a woman gives herself to a man like this then she deserves for him to be hers.
  - F. They have a rightful claim on one another and it is considered holy in the sight of God.
  - G. Therefore, anyone who comes messing around and trying to interfere with this covenant and steal away the heart or body of either one is the lawbreaker and the one who will justly receive the wrath of the jealous one.

Set me as a seal upon thine heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave: the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame. (Song of Solomon 8:6)

For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. (Proverbs 6:34)

### III. God is a jealous God.

Thus saith the LORD of hosts; I was jealous for Zion with great jealousy, and I was jealous for her with great fury. (Zechariah 8:2)

And Joshua said unto the people, Ye cannot serve the LORD: for he is an holy God; he is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions nor your sins. (Joshua 24:19)

- A. He gets angry beyond comprehension when the world messes with his bride.

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Surely in the fire of my jealousy have I spoken against the residue of the heathen, and against all Idumea, which have appointed my land into their possession with the joy of all their heart, with despiteful minds, to cast it out for a prey. (Ezekiel 36:5)

- B. He is hurt beyond comprehension when his bride goes whoring after the world.

And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall lothe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations. (Ezekiel 6:9)

- C. The anger and the hurt spell jealousy, and that will be the motivating attribute of God when He judges this wicked world in that great day of his wrath that the Bible talks about.
- D. But God always forgives and restores his bride, because He has made a covenant with her forever.

Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant. Then thou shalt remember thy ways, and be ashamed, when thou shalt receive thy sisters, thine elder and thy younger: and I will give them unto thee for daughters, but not by thy covenant. And I will establish my covenant with thee; and thou shalt know that I am the LORD: That thou mayest remember, and be confounded, and never open thy mouth any more because of thy shame, when I am pacified toward thee for all that thou hast done, saith the Lord GOD. (Ezekiel 16:60-63)

- E. The same teaching is carried into the New Testament about the church, which is the bride of Christ.

For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. (2 Corinthians 11:2)