



## James 4:5 Understanding the Jealousy of God

November 1, 2015

### Text: James 4:5

#### **Our God is a Jealous God!**

- Exodus 20:4-6 ESV
- Exodus 34:12-16 ESV
- Deuteronomy 4:23-24 ESV
- Deuteronomy 32:15-21 ESV (15)
- Joshua 24:19-22 ESV
- Ezekiel 8:1-6 ESV
- 1 Corinthians 10:20-22 ESV

#### **A Jealous God? Really? Really!**

1. Yes friends, our God is a jealous God.

The word in Hebrew for “jealous” is often a derivative of qânâ, which means “to make zealous or envious in a bad sense” or “to provoke.”

2. Even His Name is call “Jealous.”

*Exodus 34:14 ESV (for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God)*

3. But it is CRITICAL to understand God’s jealousy that we might understand our Text:

- God’s jealousy is NOT based from any sin or wrong; it comes from His desire to alone be worshipped by His creatures.
- God’s jealousy comes from His nature as singular, holy, sanctified, eternal, and distinct, therefore it is holy.
- God’s jealousy therefore is good, and there is nothing or no one else that deserves our worship and adoration!
- God’s jealousy comes from His desire to be our only Source, our only Father, and our only Husband.
- God’s jealousy doesn’t come from any kind of unfair expectations; the Father sent the Son shed His Holy Blood and die for our sins that we might be His and His alone!

#### **James 4:5**

Although this is a difficult passage to study (other translations demonstrate that difficulty), let us try to follow the progression of thought:

1. Friendship with the world is enmity against God.
2. When Christians become intimate with the people, philosophies, and systems that hate Christ, we hurt Him, anger Him, and express the characteristics of His enemies.
3. The “spirit” he has made to dwell in us belongs to Him.
4. Indeed all that we are belongs to Him! (*Colossians 3:3-4*)
5. Christians also have the Spirit of God in us. Dare we unite Him to ungodliness? (*Corinthians 6:15-20 ESV*)

**Here is the Point:**

We belong to God. We are His and He is ours. With everything in us, we should long for and “yearn” for His Presence as He, apparently, longs to be close to us. With every fiber of our being we should WANT to serve Him, WANT to obey HIM, WANT to love Him, and WANT to worship Him! Our hearts should beat for prayer, and holiness, and honor, and purity, and grace, and goodness, and for the Kingdom of God and His Christ to come! Just as He is jealous for us, we should be fully committed to Him!

The last thing a follower of Christ should want to do is to taste this heavenly gift, share in the Holy Spirit, taste the goodness of the Word of God and the power of the ages to come...and then act as if we are fallen away by becoming friendly with the world, crucifying again the Son of God and holding Him in contempt. (Hebrews 6:4-6)

The last thing a follower of Christ should want is to be in any way identified with that which systematically dishonors His Name.

He jealously **yearns** for OUR LIVES...our worship, our service, our adoration, and our affections. WE should **yearn** TO worship, TO serve, TO adore Him, and to love Him with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength.

I’m so glad, when because we fail to do this so very often...

***“...He gives more grace.” (James 4:6a)***

Thank you Lord, for your magnificent grace, and for yearning for us the way You do.

Amen.