

The Jealousy of God – Part II

Zealous for His Glory

Series: Jealousy of God
Title: Zealous for His Glory

**Texts: Num. 25:1-13; John
2:13-17**

Date: November 9, 2025

Three Fundamental Questions:

A. Why does it matter to know that God is a jealous God?

Exodus 34:13-14 – the jealousy of God is fundamental to His nature and is revealed as His name.

B. What does it mean that God is jealous?

Definition: the jealousy of God is His commitment and inclination to act on behalf of His glory in protecting, realizing, and furthering that which rightfully belongs to Him.

- God's acts in justice against those who hate Him when He should be loved (Exodus 20:5).
- Showing His lovingkindness towards those who love Him (Exodus 20:6).

C. Why is God jealous?

Point: God is jealous because His glory is central and He deserves to be loved, obeyed, and worshiped supremely by all creation (Isaiah 42:8; Deut. 6:4-5).

Central Question: Should the jealousy of God for what belongs to Him influence and shape the life of the one who loves Him?

Disobedience in Numbers:

- The people complain (11:1-11).
- The people rebel against going into Canaan (ch.14).
- Korah and others revolt against Moses (ch.16).
- The people complain (16:41-50).
- The people complain (20:1-5).
- The people complain (21:4-5).
- The people corrupt themselves at Shittim (25:1-13).

Israel's Sin and Phinehas' Zeal:

1. The people's _____ at Shittim (v.1-3).

Numbers 25:1a And Israel remained at Shittim

Numbers 25:1b–3 ...and the people began to play the harlot with the daughters of Moab. ²Indeed they called the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. ³So Israel joined themselves to Baal of Peor, and the anger of Yahweh burned against Israel.

“joined themselves” - to “yoke oneself to”

“Yahweh’s anger burned against Israel” – God’s wrathful justice against sin was incited by their deeds and He intends to punish them.

2. Yahweh and Moses pronounce _____ on the guilty (v.4-5).

Numbers 25:4–5 And Yahweh said to Moses, “Take all who are the heads of the people and execute them in broad daylight before Yahweh, so that the burning anger of Yahweh may turn away from Israel.” So Moses said to the judges of Israel, “Each of you kill his men who have joined themselves to Baal of Peor.”

3. The _____ of Phinehas (v.6-9).

Numbers 25:6 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.

Numbers 25:7–9 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. So those who died by the plague were 24,000.

4. Yahweh relents His judgment and _____ Phinehas for his jealousy (v.10-13).

Numbers 25:10–13 Then Yahweh spoke to Moses, saying, “Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned away My wrath from the sons of Israel in that he was jealous with My jealousy among them, so that I did not consume the sons of Israel in My jealousy. “Therefore say, ‘Behold, I give him My covenant of peace; and it shall be for him and his seed after him, a covenant of a perpetual priesthood, because he was jealous for his God and made atonement for the sons of Israel.’”

Point: knowing the jealousy of God for what rightfully belongs to Him should cause His people to be jealous for the _____ He is jealous over.

Jesus Cleanses the Temple the First Time:

1. **Jesus _____ at Jerusalem and _____ dishonor towards the Father (v.13-14).**

John 2:13–14 And the Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. And He found in the temple those who were selling oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables.

2. **Jesus _____ to their dishonor of the Father (v.15-16).**

John 2:15–16 And He made a scourge of cords, and drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables; and to those who were selling the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making My Father's house a place of business."

3. The reason for Jesus' actions: zeal for the _____ (v.17).

John 2:17 His disciples remembered that it was written, "ZEAL FOR YOUR HOUSE WILL CONSUME ME."

The disciples reference Psalm 69:9.

"zeal" - a passion, ardor, or strong desire; same word used in Greek translation of Numbers 25:11.

Point: it is right for those who desire God's glory to be _____ to act when He is dishonored, disrespected, and disregarded, especially by those who should know better.

Biblical Balance:

- Do not let zeal for God become _____ anger by letting it linger on or drift from good motives (Ephesians 4:26–27).
- Zeal for God should never be the reason for reacting sinfully against sin and it certainly doesn't _____ it (Romans 12:18–21).

Areas of Application:

- _____: when someone speaks against God, zealously speak the truth.
- _____: respond to unholiness and error in the church out of zeal that God's name to be glorified amongst us.

Discussion Questions:

1. In what ways should the texts we looked at, Numbers 25 and John 2, challenge us to repent? Do the texts challenge us to grow? In what ways?
2. How would you describe the mindset and affections of Phinehas and Jesus that moved them to action? Are they something believers should possess and display?
3. How do believers display a zealously for God today in these areas: the local church, doctrinal accuracy, conversations, false teachers, and one's reputation before the world as one who loves God?
4. What New Testament principles must be kept in mind when acting in zealously for God's glory?
5. If zeal for God's glory and action because of zeal is infrequent or absent, what does that show about your heart? What things stifle or quench zeal for God's glory?



Blanks: sin, judgment, jealousy, commends, same things, sees, arrives, sees, responds, Father, stirred, unrighteous, justify, Conversation, Church.