

# Jealous Much?

Long Beach Alliance Church • April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012 • Pastor Chris Lankford

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

## 1) Renewal

- A) After telling Moses that He will not be abandoned by God (Exodus 33:12-17) and the extraordinary promise from God to allow Moses to see the physical glory of God (33:18-23), it was time for the renewal of relationships.
- B) This is a good example which serves all of us well to follow. When forgiven, renewal is needed. Renewal is needed for all of God's people because we all need a "do over" at times. Renewal reminds us of our commitment to God, and is a reminder of God's loving character.
- C) In order to renew the commitment of the people with God, the Ten Commandments needed to be "restored" from their shattered condition (cf. 32:19).
- D) Following God's directions, Moses brings the blank stone tablets to God on Mount Sinai in a renewal of the covenant agreement between God and His people (34:1-4).

## 2) The God Of All Good Things

- A) Renewal is not simply one-sided. God also "renews" with us by reminding us of His true character and attributes. God provides everything we need for obedience and fidelity to Him through His perfect character!

B) God announces Himself to Moses in a majestic manner (The LORD, the LORD God..., 34:6) and describes His character in one of the most famous and memorable verses in all of Scripture (34:6-7):

- i) **God is compassionate**, hearing our cry of repentance.
- ii) **God is gracious**, not giving us what we deserve, but giving us what we do not deserve -- His great love.
- iii) **God is patient**, not volatile. He does not “fly off the handle,” but treats His children with love.
- iv) **God is loving**, giving His very best for us.
- v) **God is faithful**, no matter the circumstances.
- vi) **God is forgiving**, he lifts our guilt, rebellion, and sin from us, removing separation between God and men.
- vii) **God is just**, judging those who are His enemies (34:6-7).

C) What keeps us from sin? It is not harder work or more Bible study (although they do not hurt), it is living in relationship with “The LORD, the LORD God...” When we lose relationship with God’s character, we are ripe for failure!

D) God does not draw us to Himself in fear, but in great love, like a good parent loves their beloved children. Moses rightly responds with worship and intercession (34:8-9).

### 3) The Vigilant And Jealous Love Of God

A) God responds to Moses’ prayer of renewal and appeal for His presence among the people with a reestablishment of the covenant (34:10), and a reminder of the promise to provide the Promised Land for Israel (34:11).

B) But with the promise to “drive out” (conquer) the many different peoples in the Promised Land, God warns Moses to avoid idolatry by not making any treaties or friendly agreements with the conquered peoples (34:12-13).

C) As if the people needed a reminder (after the whole Golden Calf saga), God reveals His character as “Jealous” (vigilant love) for His people (34:14). God’s love is not like human jealousy, but is jealous for our greatest blessing and benefit.