



My Jealous Husband

*Leanna Bolden
Eternally Speaking Now*

[Listen to the Podcast Here](#)

I'm frequently overtaken in my spirit by how powerful God is as our Defender. He recently reminded me that He is a consuming fire, full of both love and jealousy for His people.

Wait.
Did I just say *jealousy*?

I sure did.

Do you know that one of the Lord's names is Jealous?

**“...for you shall worship no other god, for the Lord,
whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.”**

Exodus 34:14

God's jealousy is not the ungodly kind we know and experience as humans.

Human-driven jealousy is sinful: it hurts relationships, separating us from the Lord and from others. It is possessive, controlling, victimizing, and fearful. The Bible couples sinful jealousy with **“contentions, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, and tumults.”** (*2 Corinthians 12:20*)

Not so with the Lord.

His jealousy is pure, radiant, and redemptive. It is full of peace, joy, and freedom, all wrapped up in His perfect love.

Don't get me wrong, though;
He's no pushover.

The Hebrew root word for God's name, Jealous, is Qanna. Following is its definition from the Strong's Concordance.

Qanna (kan-naw')

jealous (only of God)
jealous (as punishing those who hate Him)
jealous (demanding exclusive service)

Whenever we study a name or character trait of God, it's important to remember that He *is all* of His names and *all* of His character traits, *all* together, *all* the time. While He *is* what this definition states above, He is *also* simultaneously the God Who Provides, the God of Angel Armies, and the God Who Sees. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-present, full of mercy and forgiveness, abounding with comfort and peace.

Aren't you glad our God is Love? (*1 John 4:16*)

I'm also glad he *isn't* a wimp.

He has the right to holy jealousy, for He is our Creator, and He knows what's best for His creation.

The Lord's jealousy is filled with a fierce determination
to save us from ourselves,
to deliver us from sin, and
to spare us from the devastation in which the wrong path engulfs us.

We're so quick to flee into the arms of anything other than the Lord.
It is an unfortunate human tendency.
To what do you run?

Our counterfeit places of shelter may be obvious things like an addiction to alcohol, drugs, or prescription medication. Or, our go-to may be work, ministries, friends or family, seeking their attention and validation rather than the Lord's. Maybe your idol of choice is America's favorite—*food*. (Raise your hand if yours is sugar. Chocolate?)

Those things we use as a crutch are a dead end.
They're a brick wall.
A slam in the face.

That sweetened morsel may taste good in the evening, but in morning, we're one step closer to diabetes. That deceptively soothing drink at night may feel good in the moment, but next morning, well, as it's said, "*Wherever you go, there you are.*" Whatever problem you faced last night still exists at dawn (or at noon), and now there's a headache to accompany it.

About 20 years ago, I was ministering to some women,
one of whom had recently surrendered her life to Christ.
She was a grown woman, 30 years old.
She'd lived a life of addiction, with her primary weakness alcohol.
Jesus had set her free overnight, but after that,
it took time for her to be retrained on how to
deal with the emotions that alcohol had numbed for so many years.

I'll never forget one evening when we gathered for our Bible study. She gave an update and a praise, declaring,

"I refuse to run to anything but Jesus in my life. I will only run to Him."

We asked, "How are you doing that?"

She explained, "When I face a situation now that I couldn't handle in the past, I just run to my bedroom, shut the door, and cry. I cry, cry, and cry until I cannot cry anymore."

She continued saying she'd speak with the Lord about it briefly, clean up her face, and then get on with her day. As the weeks passed, she reported the need to cry was less and less. We witnessed this woman develop a lifestyle of absolute surrender to the Lord and an intimate relationship with the God who created her. And you. And me.

Our God, whose name is Jealous,
wants us to trust Him.
With everything.
He is wooing you,
He is summoning you
to come, sit, and talk with Him.

Escape to your prayer room, prayer closet, or prayer corner; go to your car if you need to. I've found the bathroom stall in a store to be a convenient and spontaneous place for temporary refuge with God when there is nowhere else to pray. Wherever it is, go there and pour out your heart to the Lord.

CHALLENGE

Did you know that our Jealous God
is
also
our
Husband?

Yup. He is your covering, your head, your leader, your love.

At least, He longs to be.

Do you know Him in this way?

If this is a new concept to you, it may feel uncomfortable or sound unbiblical, but I can assure you that it is completely biblical. Not only that, but it is amazingly beautiful.

**"For your Maker is your husband,
the Lord of hosts is His name;
and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel;
He is called the God of the whole earth."**

Isaiah 54:5

To embrace God as our Husband, it helps to first undo any impure images we may have of marriage. Marriage on earth was designed to exemplify the church's relationship with Jesus, not the other way around. So, consider marriage in its purest, holiest, most perfect and unblemished form. Imagine it without any broken human element. That's difficult to do, isn't it? The more we walk with Jesus, though, the more we get to know Him as our holy Husband, and the more we understand how the Church was created to live as His holy bride.

Ephesians 5:22-33 explains this well, saying the following:

- As Christ is head of the church, the husband is head of his wife.
- As the church is subject to Christ, the wife is to be so to her husband.
- The husband is to nourish and cherish his wife, "just as the Lord does the church."
- The husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church, giving Himself up for her, "that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish."
- Each of us—every believer in Jesus—is a member of Christ's body, of His flesh and of His bones. "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."
- Verse 33 concludes these teachings, saying, "This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church."

Indeed this is a mystery, isn't it? It is other-worldly.

How can we live this way— as a glorious, holy church,
not having blemish or spot or wrinkle or any such thing—
if we are clinging to things,
longings, people, ideals,
or worldly goals,
that are not in Christ?

We simply cannot be faithful to the Lord as our Husband,
if we've got a wandering eye for the stuff of this world.

**"No one can serve two masters;
for either he will hate the one and love the other,
or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other.
You cannot serve God and mammon."**

Matthew 6:24

If a spouse chooses to be unfaithful to the marriage covenant, negative consequences abound. Likewise, when Christians sin, they are being unfaithful to their covenant with God, and corruption is reaped.

Adultery always ends in destruction.

**The Bible states that the person who practices unfaithfulness is a liar.
He will be carried away captive, brought low, scattered, turned aside,
uprooted from the land, destroyed, and caught by his own lust.
He is one who feeds on violence and whose way is difficult.**

*(Jeremiah 34:14, 1 Chronicles 9:1, 2 Chronicles 28:19, Nehemiah 1:8,
Psalm 78:57, Proverbs 2:22, 11:3, 11:6, 13:2, 13:15)*

Disturbing, right? How do we prevent these atrocities?

Refuse to seek deliverance from anything or anyone else other than Jesus our Husband. (If you need to take the chocolate bar into your prayer closet with Him, it's okay. He can work with that.)

Choose faithfulness to God.

Cling to Him!

He will defend you, and His very name will keep you safe.

**“The name of the Lord is a strong tower;
the righteous run to it and are safe.”**

Proverbs 8:10

Dear church-- cherished Bride of Christ--
discover exhilaration,
and experience rest,
as you run to
our Jealous Husband, Jesus.

Scroll down for a 5-minute video you won't want to miss...& more!

***Would you like to literally experience
our Jealous God, Qanna, with me?***

Tap the button below for the 5-minute video that birthed this blog and captures the emotional moments when the Lord moved me to ponder afresh His name, Jealous. I pray you are as stirred within as I was when He prompted me to record this.

Qanna with Leanna: a 5-minute Video

*Want to hear or read more on the topic of **Running to God and Resting in Him?**
Follow the links below to enjoy additional writings and podcasts.*

Our First Go-To

Check out this sign along the road!
The timing was incredible, and this really did happen. Use the tabs below to read/listen to a supernatural thing God did, "driving home" the importance of running to Him. Let's "3-1-2!" :-)

Our First Go-To: Podcast

Our First Go-To: Blog

There's Room for That

This sweet daydream took me to some of the most wonderful 'heavenly rooms,' and they're available to anyone, every day. **You don't want to miss this.** What better way to run to God than to rest in Him?

There's Room for That: Podcast

There's Room for That: Blog

Get the Word out! Feel free to share these messages with others.



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email

Eternally Speaking Now | Leanna Bolden, Eternally Speaking Now, www.leannabolden.com,
Fairmount, IL 61841