

Introduction

1. We have this statement: 'jealous'
2. It is found at least 6 times in OT
3. Do we think of it? Very important to know.

1. GOD IS JEALOUS OF HIS OWN WORSHIP

- 1) Repeatedly this word is used – "Jealous"
- 2) There are 2 sorts of Jealousy:
 - (i) evil: resentment at the talents, etc. of others:
ILLUSTRATION: Saul of David – "very angry" (1 Sam. 18:8)
DEFINITION: That sinful anger which springs from envy
OBSERVATION: This is never in God – nor could it be.
Explain
 - (ii) good: insistence on what is right and holy
ILLUSTRATION: a husband of his wife's love
- a parent that their children be obedient
- 3) God insists on everything good, esp. His worship:
 - (i) it is a great sin NOT to worship God
 - (ii) it is a great sin to worship any other "God"
 - (iii) it is a great sin to worship God falsely
- 4) Proofs: TEXT: Exodus 34:14; Deut. 4:24 ; Joshua 24:19
APPLICATION: Take great care over God's worship

2. GOD IS JEALOUS FOR HIS OWN GODHOOD

- 1) This is clear from the refs.: Deut 4:24 and TEXT:
 - (i) God is and He will suffer no pretended rivals
 - (ii) Neither gods of the mind, nor material idols

- 2) God insists that we know Him for what He is:
 - (i) the divine essence is one
 - (ii) the divine persons are three
 - (iii) the divine attributes given in scripture:
 - incommunicable
 - communicable**OBSERVE**: God will have us so think of Him and so worship Him.

- 3) The OT as a whole reveals God's jealousy:

- (i) The Tower of Babel
- (ii) The Golden Calf
- (iii) The error of the Canaanites – "Baal"
- (iv) The folly of Jeroboam I
- (v) and of the heathen nations of old

- 4) This visible in Isaiah 44: God's sarcasm at the folly of idolatry!
OBSERVATION: God will punish us if we worship in any false way: TEXT
APPLICATION: Treat God and His worship with care

3. GOD IS JEALOUS FOR HIS PEOPLE'S LOVE

- 1) This is something we need to see clearly:
 - (i) it is wonderful: Deism
 - (ii) the greatness of God
 - (iii) the smallness of man
ILLUSTRATION: Does a mighty Emperor care if a few beggars hate him? But God does!
- 2) This is because of God's love:
 - (i) He desires us to love Him
 - (ii) He has taken steps to lead us to do so
OBSERVATION: God so desires our love that He has gone to immense lengths: John 3:16
- 3) What love God has for us all!
 - (i) "Come unto me..."
 - (ii) "Look unto me..."
 - (iii) "Thou shalt love..." (The first commandment)

CONCLUSION

1. We must love this great God
2. If we do not, we must expect to be punished – "jealous".

PSALM

99: 1 – 7

29: 5 – 11

148¹: 7 – 14