

Jealous Elijah I Kings 19:10

By Pastor Roy Hogan

(1 Kings 19:10) *And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.*

*I: hostile toward a rival or one believed to enjoy an advantage : **ENVIOUS** His success made his old friends jealous. They were jealous of his success.*

Jealousy always involves a *rival*: a) Husband, you would not be jealous of your wife if you were the only man on planet earth. b) A young girl is jealous of her boyfriend because there are other girls around. c) You have a neighbor who flaunts what he owns. He gets under your skin. One day you look out the window across the fence, and the neighbor has bought a boat bigger than yours. d) one grandson is 9. His sister is 6. Not much age difference. Couple weeks ago, I gave a crisp \$20 bill in her birthday card. I knew what was coming.

Sometimes, jealousy is bad. It can ruin a marriage. It can bring hostility between two people that can get out of hand and result in injury or death.

Not all jealousy is bad. There is godly jealousy that is good. Elijah was a prophet of God. He was a man of God. He says in our text verse *I have been very jealous*. One time, he got so beaten down he climbed under a juniper tree and asked God to let him die. Jealousy has him beaten down.

He left the juniper tree and went into the mountains and hid in a cave. God asked him a question in I King 19: 9 *What doest thou here, Elijah?* Elijah's answer is our message this morning: *And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am*

left; and they seek my life, to take it away. Let us see what Elijah was jealous of.

Lord God of hosts

Israel had fallen prey to false gods. Idolatry was rampant. False gods, false gods.

(Isaiah 46:9) *Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,*

(Isaiah 45:5) *I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me:*

(Isaiah 45:6) *That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else.*

Allah: a false god who has 1.9 billion followers.

Prophet Mohammed: I come closer to believing in Santa Claus than prophet Mohammed

Buddha: a false god with 506 million followers.

Hinduism: 1.1 billion

Religion	Adherents	Percentage
Christianity	2.3 billion ^[1]	29%
Islam	1.9 billion	24%
Secular^[a]/Nonreligious^[b]/Agnostic/Atheist	1.1 billion	14%
Hinduism	1.1 billion	14%

Religion	Adherents	Percentage
<u>Buddhism</u>	506 million	6%
<u>Chinese traditional religion</u> ^[c]	394 million	5%
<u>Ethnic religions</u> excluding some in separate categories	300 million	3%
<u>African traditional religions</u>	100 million ^[4]	1.2%
<u>Sikhism</u>	23 million	0.29%
<u>Spiritism</u>	15 million	0.19%
<u>Judaism</u>	14 million ^[5]	0.18%
<u>Bahá'í</u>	7.0 million	0.09%
<u>Jainism</u>	4.2 million	0.05%
<u>Shinto</u>	4.0 million	0.05%
<u>Cao Dai</u>	4.0 million	0.05%

Religion	Adherents	Percentage
Zoroastrianism	2.6 million	0.03%
Tenrikyo	2.0 million	0.02%
Animism	1.9 million	0.02%
Neo-Paganism	1.0 million	0.01%
Unitarian Universalism	0.8 million	0.01%
Rastafari	0.6 million	0.007%
total	7.79 billion	100%

To find a true follower of Jesus Christ, prepare to look for a needle in a haystack.

Not much has changed: Ford Truck, new Home, bass boat, a golf course, social media, Facebook are today's gods

What is the first commandment?

Exodus 20:5 *Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a **jealous** God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;*

II Corinthians 11:2 *For I am **jealous** over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.*

Shame on a believer who has a God who is jealous over them, but they are not jealous over God.

I am against God's rivals, are you, dear child of God? If I knew Allah died for me, I'd pray to him. If someone can convince me that Buddha spoke the stars into existence, I'll follow him.

Children of Israel

The children of Israel were, in the time of Elijah, his *family of God*. Any born-again soul that has God ruling in their life is jealous over the family of God. I get riled up when I see a member of my family of God engaging in the things of the world. You have absolutely no business dressing like the world. You have no business talking like the world. You have no business going where the world goes, watching what the world watches. I am Jealous.

The world is a rival to the family of God. The world wants a date with you, but you are saved and you the bride of Christ. You mean, you would step out on God? Surf over there to a porn site- are you kidding me. Listen to that worldly joke at the water fountain or in the break room at the workplace. Come on now- don't turn red.

Elijah caught Israel going to the club with the prophets of Baal for relaxation and entertainment. Elijah found the children of Israel, God's family, wearing their ungodly dresses like the prophets of Baal, and their low-cut blouses.

Elijah was jealous! The world is a rival to the family of God, and it makes me steam when I see the family of God out on a date with the world's crowd.

Forsaken the Covenant

I have in my hand God's covenant, the 1611 JKV Bible. If you want to know what God has to say, read the Bible. If you want to know what the truth is, look in the Bible.

The covenant, that is, the Bible, has rivals. I am jealous. I am upset at the rivals of the Bible. The NIV and on and on. "We need a Bible we can understand." It helps to be saved before you read it. "Oh, I just can't understand." Don't blame God for your 8-word vocabulary. You should have stayed awake in grade-school English class.

I am jealous. The pure Words of God has rivals. Smart phones. Television and on and on.

(Psalms 119:89) *For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.*

Thrown down the altars

In Bible days, there were no church buildings with altars inside them. The altars were in fields, in the woods, and on the mountain tops. No church buildings. Israel had torn down the altars, the place where they met to worship God.

I am a church fanatic. The church has rival. These 10-cent companies that think they can't close on the Lord's day. The entertainment world- Dollywood. Granny's house. The lake- boat's won't float on water except on Sunday. Granny can't receive guest except on Sunday.

You don't come back on Sunday evening. The church has rivals. You are worshipping your other god, mowing your grass, vacuuming your carpet, shopping, your other god. I'm jealous. Any Pastor worth the salt that goes in his bread would be jealous. If not, he is not fit to pastor. You signed this church roll saying you want to be a part of this church. We only have one kind of membership- all or nothing.

The church has rivals. I am jealous. One of it's biggest rivals is a recliner.

Slain the prophets

To this world, a preacher, a pastor, an evangelist is one rung above the garbage man.

Men of God have rivals. I am jealous. My hero is not Micky Mouse. My hero is not Elvis Presley, Michael Jordan, Lebron James. My hero is the man of God who stands and cries aloud and spares not and says "Repent or perish," "Ye must be born again," "Heaven is sweet- hell is hot."

Look who is popular today. The Hollywood stars, the sports figures, the entertainers.

Who did Michael Jackson win to Christ? Who did Michael Jordan tell about Jesus? A country man, a man with two bullets holes through his frame, a man with a high school education, a man who drove worn out cars, lived in run-down houses, and dug ditches for a living, came my way and told me someone loved me, someone cared for me, the Devil was my enemy, sin was awful and would damn me.

I am jealous- men of God have rivals.