ESH OKLAH & EL KANNA Jealous God, Consuming Fire

The names of God as Jealous and Consuming Fire feel extreme, maybe even off-putting in our human context, but I think we need God to have these qualities maybe now more than ever.

- Feels like we are in danger of being consumed by so many other things and we need God to right the ship
- God is Holy & Protective...we are prone to wander

Definitions

- Jealousy
- Consuming Fire

History/Context

- The Ten Commandments
- "Everything the Lord has said we will do"
- The Golden Calf/ "come, make us gods who will go before us"
- New Stone Tablets/convenant

Covenant

- 1. Promises
- 2. Terms
- 3. Warnings

"God is not jealous like an insecure employer who fears that his employees might get lured away by a better salary elsewhere. God's jealousy is not the reflex of weakness or fear.

Instead God is jealous like a powerful and merciful king who takes a peasant girl from a life of shame, forgives her, marries her, and gives her not the chores of a slave, but the privileges of a wife—a queen. His jealousy does not rise from fear or weakness but from a holy indignation at having his honor and power and mercy scorned by the faithlessness of a fickle spouse.

The ten commandments are not a job description for God's employees. They are the wedding vows that the peasant girl takes to forsake all others and to cleave to the king alone and to live in a way that brings no dishonor to his great name." John Piper 'The Lord Whose Name is Jealous'

Application

- Come Thou Fount
- Distracted, seeking idols, self-reliance, vulnerable to the enemy
- Hesed & God's Presence