

## Jesus Has a Name

### Episode 21

#### Call Upon His Name

#### Yahweh Qanna

We have come a long way in terms of learning about the name of Jesus and hopefully more completely understanding who it is that we are to worship fully convinced that ***if we call on His name we will be saved, for there is much power in the name when it is accompanied by faith.***

This brings us to a name that is very intense, a name that reveals an aspect of **Yahweh's** character that at first may seem in contradiction to much we have been told about **Yahweh**, but a name which helps explain so much about our lives, what has happened in our lives, and all the reasons why.

**Yahweh Qanna.** **Yahweh** is Jealous. Jealous is His name.<sup>1</sup>

**Yahweh** gave us this name when He first delivered the famed Ten Commandments to the Israelites, and again after the Israelites got themselves in a mess of trouble for ignoring what He had said. Let us track the story.

The Israelites had recently left Egypt through some unfathomable signs and wonders performed by **Yahweh** on their behalf. He even split open the Red Sea for them to cross over on dry ground and then later closed it on top of the Egyptians when they tried to follow. In their journey they arrived at Mount Sinai, which is the mountain where Moses first saw the burning bush, and where **Yahweh** gave Moses and the people the commandments of God.

**Yahweh** said to Moses, "Behold, I will come to you in a thick cloud, so that the people may hear when I speak with you and may also believe in you forever."<sup>2</sup> **Yahweh** descending upon the mountain would in effect be the first personal introduction of **Yahweh** to the community at large. And, honestly, it was a bit terrifying.

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<sup>1</sup> **Exodus 34:14; Deuteronomy 4:24; 5:9; 6:15**

<sup>2</sup> **Exodus 19:9**

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### **Exodus 19:16-20**

So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because **Yahweh** descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with thunder.

This is quite the introduction. God then called Moses up to the mountain where he received the Ten Commandments from **Yahweh**. The very first two of the Ten Commandments were quite personal in their instruction as they addressed the relationship between **Yahweh** and the people.

### **Exodus 20:2-6**

I am **Yahweh** your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; for **I, Yahweh your God, am a jealous God**, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

While God was talking to Moses, we are told that all the people perceived the thunder and the lightning flashes and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood at a distance. They had become so scared that they said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen; but let not God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order

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that the fear of Him may remain with you, so that you may not sin." So the people stood at a distance, while Moses approached the thick cloud where God was.

Then **Yahweh** said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'You yourselves have seen that I have spoken to you from heaven. 'You shall not make other gods besides Me; gods of silver or gods of gold, you shall not make for yourselves.'<sup>3</sup>

Though a lot of scary theatrics, **Yahweh** lets the people know that He is a jealous God, and that jealousy is part-and-parcel of His nature. Therefore, they were to remain loyal to Him alone and serve no other so-called gods nor make any for themselves.

God continued to provide Moses instruction about many things, and when He was done, Moses came and recounted to the people all the words of **Yahweh** and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words which **Yahweh** has spoken we will do!" Moses wrote down all the words of **Yahweh**, and then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that **Yahweh** has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!"<sup>4</sup> So the people heard, and they understood, that **Yahweh their God, whose name is jealous, is a jealous God.**

Then God told Moses to come to the top of Mount Sinai where **Yahweh** would give Moses further instructions as well as the sacred commandments etched into 2 stone tablets.<sup>5</sup> Moses was on the mountain top for forty-days-and-forty-nights where he received instruction regarding the Tabernacle, the Ark of the Covenant, the Priesthood, Sacrifices, and so many more things connected to the worship of **Yahweh**.

When **Yahweh** had finished instructing Moses, **Yahweh** gave him the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.<sup>6</sup> And it was during this time that the story takes a nasty turn.

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<sup>3</sup> *Exodus 20:18-24*

<sup>4</sup> *Exodus 24:3-4, 7*

<sup>5</sup> *See Exodus 24:12*

<sup>6</sup> *Exodus 31:18*

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The people came to Aaron, Moses' older brother (who ironically would become the first High Priest) and said, "Make a god for us who will go before us, for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."<sup>7</sup> Really? It had only been 40-days and they were already freaking out.

### ***Exodus 32:1-6***

Now when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people assembled about Aaron and said to him, "**Come, make us a god who will go before us**; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Tear off the gold rings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." Then all the people tore off the gold rings which were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. He took this from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool and made it into a molten calf; and they said, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt." Now when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "**Tomorrow shall be a feast to Yahweh.**" So the next day they rose early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

All it took was 40-days and 40-nights for these people to turn from **Yahweh**. Aaron, Moses's brother, failed big-time and succumbed to the desires of the people to have an idol, a god they could see and worship, so he built them a golden cow and called it **Yahweh**. They worshiped this cow and sacrificed to it and said, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!"<sup>8</sup> A cow, really? That is all he could come up with.

You got to know that this did not go down too well with **Yahweh** whose **is a jealous God**, especially since He had just told them never to do that, and they all agreed saying, "All that **Yahweh** has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!" This betrayal evoked the anger of

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<sup>7</sup> *Exodus 32:23*

<sup>8</sup> *Exodus 32:8*

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Moses as well. Moses marched down the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God, and threw the tablets from his hands and shattered them at the foot of the mountain before the people. He then took the calf which they had made and burned it with fire, and ground it to powder, and scattered it over the surface of the water and made the sons of Israel drink it.<sup>9</sup>

Subsequently, many people died, and everything seemed to go off the rails as **Yahweh** said that He would no longer be going with the people through the wilderness journey.

Moses eventually calmed down and interceded for the people, much to **Yahweh's** liking. In fact, **Yahweh** told Moses that He had found favor in His sight for He knew Moses by name.<sup>10</sup> This was a deeply intimate comment that speaks of **Yahweh** fully knowing Moses by His character and nature.

**Yahweh** then confirmed a covenant with the people, and He stated, “for you shall not worship any other god, for **Yahweh, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.**” Thus, He lets Moses, and the people, know that jealousy goes to the very fabric of His personhood, as it defines His name.<sup>11</sup> Thus, in the same way that He knew Moses by name, He wanted Moses and all the people to know Him by His name.

Jealousy is one of those attributes that for the most part we think is dangerous and something that is very unbecoming. Being on the receiving end of jealousy can be a bit attractive at first and even securing. But when jealousy grows like a monster, it is super-scary. It can hijack a person's mind and emotions and drive them crazy. It is a powerful and reactive emotion that in the realm of human relationships is fueled by insecurity, covetousness, control, and an absence of personal identity.

Some say that jealousy is the most powerful emotion we possess. This “green-eyed monster” can be the cause of serious relational harm, even driving away the very person that is loved due to its intensity and the possessiveness of its nature. In fact, jealousy can so blind a person that all

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<sup>9</sup> *Exodus 32:19-20*

<sup>10</sup> *Exodus 33:12-17*

<sup>11</sup> *Exodus 34:14*

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they can see are relational threats and challenges surrounding the one they think is their possession. These perceived threats become overwhelming, consuming, and toxic for everyone involved.

Yet, God, by His very nature, by His name, is jealous. However, the jealousy of God is vastly different than our jealousy (though probably not in its baseline expressions) because it is rooted in love. Our jealousy, though directed to a person we love, is ultimately selfish through-and-through, for it is all about us, what we might lose, what might be taken from us, and it is not really about that other person and what they need. It is all about the **ME**.

**Yahweh's** jealous nature, however, is rooted not in selfishness but in genuine love for those who belong to Him. For instance, He did not want the Israelites (nor us) worshipping any other gods because of what it will do not just to the individual, but ultimately to the community at large. These were a people whom He chose to belong exclusively to Him. He drew them out from the nations to be His very own possession. And even though He led them to a land that was filled with idolators, He warned them not to expose themselves to such darkness because of what it would do to them.

### *Exodus 34:11-17*

Be sure to observe what I am commanding you this day: behold, I am going to drive out the Amorite before you, and the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite. **Watch yourself that you make no covenant with the inhabitants of the land into which you are going, or it will become a snare in your midst.** But rather, you are to tear down their altars and smash their sacred pillars and cut down their Asherim — for you shall not worship any other god, for **Yahweh**, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God — otherwise you might make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land and they would play the harlot with their gods and sacrifice to their gods, and someone might invite you to eat of his sacrifice, and you might take some of his daughters for your sons, and his daughters might play the harlot with their gods and cause your sons also to play the harlot with their gods. You shall make for yourself no molten gods.

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You might be thinking that this is no big deal, but later in scripture we find out that these so called “gods” were demonic spirits in disguise.<sup>12</sup> He was warning the people not to worship demons. And God did not, and does not, want to share His people with demons who have ill intent and desire only to bring harm and destruction to His people through all manner of deceptive practices.

In this regard, we discover that His jealousy is quite unlike ours, for His jealousy is not selfish in nature, it is not about what He might be missing. Rather, His jealousy is about what we might be missing—more of Him. His jealousy is obsessively protective of those whom He loves. The demonic realm may make a lot of promises, but make no mistake, they are all liars, and when they lie, they speak from their nature, in effect from their name (their character and personhood).<sup>13</sup> And each of us, by now, should have come to know them by name (we have all spent enough time with them).

The aim of the demonic for our lives is to steal from us, to kill us, and ultimately to destroy us (spiritually and physically).<sup>14</sup> Destruction is their true appetite and each of us are on their menu. They are the masters of the old bait and switch, promising so much and delivering so little. Their lies, which at first seem so scrumptious and enticing, always end up in pain, damaged relationships, and serious regret, shame, and failure.

Therefore, in His jealous love, **Yahweh** instructs them (and us) how not to slide down the slippery slope of idolatry (demon worship) that begins through relationships that, in His love, He has not ordained for them (or for us). In this regard, **Yahweh** is a vigilant guardian, protecting what belongs to Him.

### **Therefore, what does it mean for us to bet our lives on Yahweh Qanna?**

We can be confident that **Yahweh Qanna** will zealously protect us for what we were made (which is Himself); and anything that gets in the way, including our *flesh*, He will go to war against

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<sup>12</sup> **1 Corinthians 10:20; Revelation 9:20**

<sup>13</sup> **John 8:44**

<sup>14</sup> **John 10:10**

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it and fight like a jealous man to hold onto what is His. In other words, He desperately wants all of us: our heart, mind, soul, and strength. And since **His name is Jealous**, He will aggressively go to war to protect what is His by going after every enemy that threatens this relationship. And He will be obsessive about it and maniacally focused.

If you think about it, this name **Yahweh Qanna** explains why His true believers tend to suffer so much while so many others just get to live their lives and carry on. It is all sort of an oxymoron in that our mind and our emotions tell us that **Yahweh** should bless us, and **Yahweh Qanna** says that He is blessing us by destroying all the enemies in our land.

His aim is that we live in peace—in unity with Him, that we may be one with Him and one with the Father. Hence, Jesus prayed, “Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are.”<sup>15</sup> That is **Yahweh’s** definition of blessing—that we all may be united under one name, one character, one personhood.

However, make no mistake, the jealousy of God burns hot; He is a consuming fire. Who can endure the burning of His anger, for He will pursue His enemies into darkness?<sup>16</sup>

**Yahweh Qanna** wants us to be of the same mind as He is in these things. Sadly, like the Israelites, we have made many treaties with the enemies in our land and have become idolators and have even fashioned God in our own image.

For most believers, fear, pride, goodness, failure, insecurity, selfishness, envy, the victim mentality, entitlement, self-protection, anger, and hatred, and most of all, religion, are amongst their oldest and most trusted allies. And the covenants we have made with these allies are inflamed or enhanced by the demonic. They cause our hearts to turn away from **Yahweh** and towards all sorts of coping mechanisms to get through this life, to get what we want in this life, and to ensure that our God is fashioned in such a way that He meets our needs our ways.

This name, **Yahweh Qanna**, is given to us to counter our tendency to run towards idolatry where we call a golden cow by the name **Yahweh**, or deliverer, our savior. Sure, our idolatry may not look so blatant as with the Israelites, but make no mistake, we have all made unauthorized

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<sup>15</sup> *John 17:11*

<sup>16</sup> *Hebrews 12:29*. See also *Nahum 1:1-8*



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covenants with those in our land and have thereby distorted and twisted the name of God such that **Yahweh** looks like the God that we want Him to be as opposed to the God that His name declares Him to be.

Therefore, **Yahweh Qanna**, in His hot and burning anger, goes to war against these enemies of our soul. Some of these treaties that must be broken have been made intentionally and some through deception. But it does not matter, as all of it provokes His jealousy. Therefore, He intentionally fights us for us. Did you catch that? **He fights us for us.**

I can personally attest to the fact that this fight for us is far from pleasant, especially when His jealous anger is directed towards all our familiar allies and the seemingly never ending battles go on and on and on and on and on. It becomes far too easy in our exhaustion and disappointment to misunderstand His name and start to think that He is just mean and not loving. Yet, **Yahweh Qanna** is intended to be a beautiful and comforting name, knowing that He fights for our blessing, for our peace, for our protection, and for our security.

If you are experiencing the touch of **Yahweh Qanna**, keep in mind, what He does in His hot burning jealousy is **not about punishing you for your sins.**<sup>17</sup> Although, truth be told, it sure may feel a lot like punishment. However, the Father poured out all His wrath for our sin on His Son. Accordingly, none of His anger remains, as Jesus was the propitiation or the complete satisfaction of our sins.<sup>18</sup> Jesus (**Yahweh Yasha**) saved us from the wrath of the Father.<sup>19</sup>

Armed with that truth, we do not have to fall into the emotional and mental trap that we are being punished for our sins. We can however be confident that He is working to secure complete possession of what rightfully belongs to Him.

**THE NAME YAHWEH QANNA IS ALL ABOUT HIS RIGHT OF POSSESSION AND HIS  
DEEP EMOTIONAL AFFINITY FOR ALL THAT BELONGS TO HIM.**

**Yahweh Qanna** claims the exclusive right to our personhood after all, He purchased us with His own precious blood;<sup>20</sup> hence, in His jealous work to possess what is His, He is a consuming

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<sup>17</sup> *Romans 8:1; 5:1*

<sup>18</sup> *Romans 3:23-25; Hebrews 2:17; 1 John 2:2, 4:10*

<sup>19</sup> *John 3:36; Isaiah 53:1-12, 10; Galatians 3:13; Romans 4:15*

<sup>20</sup> *1 Peter 1:19*

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fire.<sup>21</sup> **Yahweh Qanna** will do whatever it takes to get us to turn to Him and away from our idolatry, even if that means exile, slavery, trouble, tribulation, and great distress. We have discussed this before, but nothing in our lives, except our right to choose—our personal sovereignty—is sacred to Him. As He did with Israel, He will even turn us over to our enemies to have their way with us. He does this not to destroy us, but in hopes of making us sick of following demons who do nothing for us but steal away the blessing, the peace, and the life we can know in **Yahweh**.

**Yahweh Qanna's** motivation is love and relationship; He wants to induce us to turn to Him, seek Him, and listen to His voice, and His voice alone. He wants us to reject the idols and to forever reject the demons that we have knowingly and unknowingly served. He wants us to let Him break every unauthorized covenant we have ever made.

But do not be dismayed, **Yahweh** promises that even if He must drive us into exile, it is there that we will seek Him and find Him when we search for Him with all our heart. He will not withhold Himself from us.<sup>22</sup> After all, **Yahweh Shammah** is always there.

Again, **Yahweh Qanna** is all about relationship and His protecting and securing what rightfully belongs to Him. Remember, He declared us to be a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, **a people for His own possession**. And, in His jealous love, He will go after anything or anyone, including our *flesh*, that stands in the way from our learning how to live, now and continually, as a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession.

He paid for us with His blood, the precious blood of His innocent Son to redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself (through the means of war) a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds (or jealous for all that comes from the only one who is good).<sup>23</sup>

**Yahweh** wants to be found by us. He wants to be personally known by us. He wants us to know Him by His name, **Yahweh Qanna**, as He knows us by name, and thereby complete the circle of relationship such that we become jealous for Him in the same way that He is jealous for us. He

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<sup>21</sup> *Deuteronomy 4:22-31; Hebrews 12:29*

<sup>22</sup> *Deuteronomy 4:29; 1 Chronicles 28:9; 2 Chronicles 15:1-4, 15; Jeremiah 29:13; Isaiah 55:6; James 4:8*

<sup>23</sup> *Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 1:19; Titus 2:14; Revelation 5:9*

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wants us burning hot with fire for Him and for all that belongs to Him. As we have learned, with **Yahweh**, it is always personal.