Foundational Principle #1: God is jealous for what rightfully belongs to Him...

Isaiah 43:1... “But now, this is what the Lord says—He who created you, He who formed you: ‘Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.’”
Foundational Principle #1: God is jealous for what rightfully belongs to Him...

1 Peter 2:9... “But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God.”
Foundational Principle #2:
We are called to love the Lord with a zealous love...

Deuteronomy 6:4-5... “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”
Foundational Principle #2:
We are called to **love** the Lord with a zealous **love**...

Exodus 20:3-5... “You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything...You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.”
1 Kings 16:29-33... "In the thirty-eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab son of Omri became king of Israel, and he reigned in Samaria over Israel twenty-two years. Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him. He not only considered it trivial to commit the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, but he also married Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and began to serve Baal and worship him."
He set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal that he built in Samaria. Ahab also made an Asherah pole and did more to provoke the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger than did all the kings of Israel before him.”
1 Kings 16:30, 33... “Ahab did more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him...Ahab did more to provoke the Lord, the God of Israel, to anger than did all the kings of Israel before him.”
On the one hand, God’s jealous love provokes Him to anger when His people turn away from Him to worship and serve another...

Deuteronomy 6:13-15... “Fear the Lord your God, serve Him only and take your oaths in His name. Do not follow other gods, the gods of the peoples around you; for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a jealous God and His anger will burn against you, and He will destroy you from the face of the land.”
On the one hand, God’s jealous love provokes Him to **anger** when His people turn away from Him to worship and serve another...

Ezekiel 16:38... “I will bring upon you the blood vengeance of my wrath and jealous anger.”
On the one hand, God’s jealous love provokes Him to anger when His people turn away from Him to worship and serve another...

Ezekiel 23:25... “I will direct my jealous anger against you, and will deal with you in fury.”
1 Kings 17:1... “Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, ‘As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.’”
1 Kings 18:2-3, 5... “Now the famine was severe in Samaria, and Ahab had summoned Obadiah, who is in charge of his palace (and who was a devout believer in the Lord)...Ahab had said to Obadiah, ‘Go through the land to all the springs and valleys. Maybe we can find some grass to keep the horses and mules alive so we will not have to kill any of our animals.’”
But on the other hand, God’s jealous love causes Him to relentlessly pursue His people, doing whatever it takes to bring them back into a relationship with Him...

Joel 2:18... “Then the Lord will be jealous for His land and take pity on his people.”
But on the other hand, God’s jealous love causes Him to relentlessly pursue His people, doing whatever it takes to bring them back into a relationship with Him...

Joel 2:19-20... “I am sending you enough to satisfy you fully...I will drive the northern army far from you.”
Joel 2:26-27... “And you will praise the name of the Lord your God, who has worked wonders for you...Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the Lord your God, and that there is no other.”
So the Lord pursued King Ahab in the famine...

1 Kings 17:1... “As the Lord, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.”
1 Kings 18:18-24... “’I have not made trouble for Israel,’ Elijah replied. ‘But you have and your fathers have. You have abandoned the Lord’s commands and have followed the Baals. Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.’
So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel. Elijah went before the people and said, ‘How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal is God, follow Him.’

But the people said nothing.
Then Elijah said to them, ‘I am the only one of the Lord’s prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. Get two bulls for us. Let them choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire—He is God.’

Then all the people said, ‘What you say is good.’”
1 Kings 18:36-39... “At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: ‘O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.’
Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, ‘The Lord—He is God! The Lord—He is God!’”
And the Lord pursued King Ahab in the fire...

1 Kings 18:37-38... “’Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.’ Then the fire of the Lord fell.”
The Lord pursued King Ahab in the rain...

1 Kings 18:45... “Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain came on and Ahab rode off to Jezreel.”
The Lord pursued King Ahab in Elijah’s great strength...

1 Kings 18:46... “The power of the Lord came upon Elijah and, tucking his cloak into his belt, he ran ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel.”
Do you see how the Lord was relentlessly pursuing King Ahab with His jealous love, doing whatever it would take to bring him back into a relationship with Him?
The Lord is doing the same thing for us...He is relentlessly pursuing us with His jealous love, doing whatever it takes to bring us back into, and keep us in, a relationship with Him...
Ezekiel 34:11, 16... “For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: ‘I myself will search for my sheep and look after them...I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak.’”
Hosea 6:1-2 (Abbreviated)...
“Come, let us return to the Lord. He will heal us; He will bind up our wounds. He will revive us; He will restore us, that we may live in His presence.”
JEALOUS LOVE