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# A Jealous God

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20:13

**PILGRIM # 1:** Say that you must have stories.

**ERUCH:** Huh?

**PILGRIM # 1:** To say that you must have stories.

**ERUCH:** The stories. How many stories you want? You want to hear the one of His jealousies? Which is very poignant. Sometimes, you know, it makes me frightened.

Ok, let's begin with Moses, you know. [pilgrims laugh].

**PILGRIM # 1:** Ok.

**ERUCH:** You all know who Moses is? Or you all don't know? Moses. Have you heard of Moses? Yeah, you know? Hmm?

**PILGRIM # 1:** What did he do?

**PILGRIM # 2:** He's the guy that had the commandments.

**PILGRIM # 3:** Thou shalt have no other God before me.

**ERUCH:** He says. It's a very beautiful and telling story. In the early years of Moses' life, if you all know Moses' life, I don't know.

Whatever it is, it was a life of great wandering and he is known as the, I think one of the world's greatest wanderer. [Eruch laughs]. Eventually it turned out to be so. But he renounced the world and he went wandering from place to place.

He's a young man in search of truth and goes out wandering and all that. He wanders from one place to another place in the deserts and all that and comes to a certain place. And his heart is set on a hill and he says, "That's fine. It's close to the village here. It's secluded. I can go there and remember my Lord."

So he would go up there and people are wondering who is this stranger who has come there and comes after two to three days. Where does he eat? What does he do there? Nobody knows him and he has strayed over here and what does he do up the hill there?

He doesn't speak to anybody, comes there, starts begging and eats his fill and then he's seen there for sometime, he keeps to himself and again he disappears and he just goes there.

With the passage of time, that's the same place, where you have heard the story about Mount Sinai? You have heard about that? Where he, that guy got the commandments, you know. [pilgrims laugh]. It is said.

**PILGRIM # 3:** He was a cool dude.

**ERUCH:** So this is what happened. What happened is, before this, the guy is still to receive that. So what happens is that one day the villagers gather, now they are curious about him all the more!

So one day village heads come and tell him, "Hey, you disappear every now and then on the hill, what do you do there? Why are you there all the time? Come down. Most of the time you spend on the hill there, rarely you come down and all that. What are you doing?"

"I'm conversing with my Lord."

"Oh! You converse with him?"

"Yeah."

He spoke the truth because he was doing that, conversing in his own way you know. Pleading, cajoling the Lord and begging him and all that sort of thing.

"So he speaks to you?"

"Yeah, sometimes he does."

So the rumour spread from one mount to another that here is a man who goes there and converses with the Lord. Many people want to have some little things to be conveyed to the Lord, you know and to get the answer.

So somebody had heard that and comes there and says, "When you go next, will you please, when you converse with the Lord, please tell Him that I remember Him and I am in a sad plight and all that but please have a little slight glance at me and

send me some comfort, send me some help. Will you please convey to Him?"

"Sure."

Oh, that day that he had said "Sure" led him with many, many requests! Requests, galore! The Lord Himself is all vanishing now, gradually. He has matured himself now also.

Now what happens is that, that was the village, nearby village, heard that. [background talk heard]. Now the villagers are alarmed, you see. They have heard that. The crowd is coming every now and again. Wait there for two nights, three nights to see when Moses will return and when will he get the whim to go back, you know.

So all would approach him, please, they will carry their tales. He has to carry their tales to the Lord. So that is the whole scene, the scene is there but the story has not begun yet about the jealousy.

To give you an idea of what was happening at that time. One lady, a very old woman from a distant village, came specially for that man who can carry her message to the Lord and bring the answer.

So she comes and she waits there. At last, she has a little conversation with Moses and says, "Will you please carry this message to my Lord. I love Him, I think of Him, I remember Him. He is my life. Tell Him that, that I am here, just remind Him about me."

"Sure mother, I will."

And of course the woman is very happy about it. He goes, comes back whenever

he wishes to come, after two, three days or four days. Woman says, the crowd is there, all pressing him, for the answers and all that.

So now the woman's turn comes. She is very old and she goes there. "Yes, Moses, my son, did you bring the message from Him? What did my Lord say? Does He remember me?"

So Moses turns to her and says, "Remember? I think, somehow or the other He remembers you the most!"

"What did He say?"

Says, "Oh, not only that I know of her but she has a special corner in my heart. I love her very much. She is very dear to me."

And her face falls. "Moses are you sure? Is the Lord telling an answer to my message?"

"Yeah. I am not speaking untruth. This is what the Lord said to me. That you are very dear to him, that you have a special corner in His heart and He loves you very much."

"I cannot believe it! No, no, no. There is some mixup, there is some mixup there, in your conveying or this and that. Or in your conveying now. It must be for somebody else, cannot be for me! Did He say? How could He say that?"

"Why not? Don't you love Him?"

"Of course I love Him, He's my very life! But how can He say that I love her and she has a corner in my heart and all that? There's some mixup. Will you please when you go again repeat the message and say

it's that old woman who has come from long distance from this village, remembers and this and that and sends this message just as a reminder."

Again the reply comes. To cut the story short, same thing and same reply and she is not believing in Moses and insisting that, "There is some mixup. There is something wrong, God recognising me and all that."

So Moses, of course, is flabbergasted, what to do with this woman? What can I say? So when the crowd has dispersed and all that and Moses is by himself, going. So, holds by his hand and draws him aside. She says, "Come here my son, I will tell my story to you. Why I insist that there is a mixup. Do you know who I am?"

"I don't know."

Then she tells the story. Once she was very beautiful, she began to lead a wayward life, remained as a prostitute for many years till age has made her this way.

"I had never thought of God, I had never did anything of that. Why I am saying there is a mixup? How could He ever love me? How could He have a soft corner for me like that? Special corner in his heart for me? A prostitute? One who has spoilt her whole lifetime like that? How is it possible? That's why I am saying, so now when you go there, give Him these little hints and let Him know that it's that woman who has now started loving you and remembering you."

He says, "Ok.Ok.Ok, all right mother, I will tell Him that." Well he goes, cut the story short, he goes and describes the whole thing there and to the horror of

Moses, for the first time he sees the divine wrath of Lord God.

He says, "Tell that woman! Now, this case is not in my hands, it is between her and you! She confided in you and she didn't accept what I said to her! I have nothing to do with her, now it's between you and her!"

Poor Moses, caught between the two! So he goes there and tells the story to her that this is what the reply is, "That because you confided in me and thought that God had mixed up the story, that means you didn't rely upon His omniscience, His infinite compassion, His infinite love!"

Says, "Has nothing to do with you now any longer. It is between you and me and it's a very sad thing for me mother to tell you that, I have nothing to do with you."

So she laments, "That is divine jealousy of the Lord." Once you have somebody intercede on your part, finished!

"Confidence! You had confidence in him and not in me? You confided your thing to him and not into me?" You follow? That's the jealousy. Have nothing to do.

Another story. Now let us come to from Moses, let's traverse, you see, all other advents and come to Meher Baba's advent. You want Meher Baba's jealousy? Huh? Yeah?

All that I remember now is, while telling the stories about this, that you could confide in this. So what had happened is this. That there was a person, I don't whether you have heard the name. One of the mandali was Gustadji, have you heard of Gustadji? One was given the silence.

Yeah. He had, he used to be with Sai Baba of Shirdi. Not this Sai Baba, mind you. Then he was handed over to Upasani Maharaj. Upasani Maharaj handed over him to Baba and all that.

His younger brother, by name Homi, eventually came to Baba through Gustadji also. Cut the story short, Homi loved Baba very much and because his brother is there, brother has filled his ears with all these little good stories and all that sort of things. He's there, he is living with Baba now.

So Homi and Gustadji are both living here. Meherabad was once infested with scorpions and snakes and all that. You have no idea! Turn over a stone and there is a scorpion there.

Little kids would come, Baba would take great precautions to tell each one, "Don't touch any stone there, there's a scorpion there! Remember, if you are stung by the scorpion, I won't do anything for you! Come on, don't touch the stone." Nothing else.

There are many beautiful stones and all sorts of forms and all that. Of course they are all being exterminated now. So, but in spite of it, even Arangaon was sort of a deserted place. Everything is changed now, I can't give you the topography. It's so changed now. You can never recognise what it was before.

So, it was like that. Desolate place and all that. So people from villages would come also. They came to know Homi is the one who has some sort of a mantra that can give them little relief from scorpion sting. Homi had that.

**PILGRIM # 1:** To give them what?

**ERUCH:** Relief. Relief.

**PILGRIM # 1:** Oh.

**ERUCH:** Suppose if I am stung here, so he will do this and then say some chant something and do this and all that and people would get relief and go back happily. He knew the art of what do you call, what do you say? How do you speak out in English?

**PILGRIM # 4:** I wouldn't know how to say it.

**ERUCH:** Relief to the suffering. [pilgrims speak simultaneously]. Release him from that sting you know, that poison that is there. Somehow or the other he had that.

So that's how people came to know about it and there will be people coming in dead of the night and this and that and eventually what would happen was, "Go to Homi! Homi, somebody has come again for you. Go." That means scorpions stung. Persons come.

Eventually what happened, a day came, when Baba wanted to transfer the whole place from here to Toka. There's a place called Toka about 30 miles away from here at the confluence of two rivers. You have not seen that place. Next time when Fred brings you, he will take you to many places also.

Now don't look at me like that! [sound of pilgrims laughing]. For that you have to work hard Linda, yeah. You have to work also hard!

So what happens is now they are transferred there, means the whole place, lock, stock and barrel is taken from here, including bamboo matting and bamboos, and posts and this and what you call these flagstones and everything is being taken! Baba, I don't know what has Baba in His mind, every time when He does that He does that! Same thing with the Seclusion Hill cabin. He could have left them there and newly built, He could have got it built anew here. "No, get the whole thing down here!"

So we had to dismantle it and carry it on our heads and bring it here and all that. Likewise, it was there. So there what happened, to cut the story short. Again the same thing. People came to know that he can give relief to the scorpion sting and there were many scorpions there on the river banks and all that sort of things.

So there again the people would come to him. Or any mandali hears about this says, "Homi, please give him the relief there," like that.

One day it so happened that Homi himself was stung by a scorpion. And as usual, there was no such thing as separate cabins or single room, double room or any. There was always dorm, you see. One hall and there you have to live there with others. No beds, no tables, no chairs, no cushions, no carpets.

So the whole night, this Homi was shouting out you see, "Oh Baba, oh Sai Baba, oh Meher Baba and oh Upasani Maharaj." Sheer pain, terrible sting, you see. And Homi wouldn't allow any of the mandali to sleep.

So, next morning, when all the mandali are together in a hall, those who were with Baba. It was customary, usual customary. "Well, how did you pass the night? Did you sleep well? How did you sleep? Are you all right? How is your health?" Likewise He will enquire. He is the most concerned one, Father, of us all, always, always, mind you. So that was the routine. Every individual has to be seen there.

So all of them said, "It was a hellish night!"

"What happened?" Baba is surprised, because He knows nothing! He is always the one who knows nothing! The omniscient, who knows nothing. "What happened? Why?"

He says, "Oh, that Homi you know, he's not here Baba, he's still shouting out there. Whole night he was shouting and wailing!"

"What happened?" Baba says, "Why?" He says you know, "Scorpion stung him."

"Scorpion stung him? But he is the one who used to give relief to others. Why could he not give relief to himself?"

"We don't know! We told him." He says, "It doesn't work on myself. It works on others."

"Call him."

So somehow or the other they bring him there, he's still shouting. And says, "How many times I took your name and still it's worrying me!" and all that.

"Oh, what happened?"

"I am stung by a scorpion. So many times I called you!"

"What can I do Homi? You did call me, I know, I heard your voice." Of course Baba was far away from there. "I heard your voice, I was in a great conference."

Just He's making up. I don't know if He made up thing or whether it was true. One can never say. It's for you to decide.

"I was in a great conference when all the 5 perfect Masters were there and I was presiding over the conference. And you called out to me, no doubt about it. I heard your voice, your loved one."

"In spite of the conference, important conference and I was heading the conference, I took, I got up from the seat and came, wanting to come to you."

"All of a sudden I heard, "Oh Sai Baba, help me, oh Sai Baba." So I said, "Well you are calling Sai Baba, so I came and took my seat back."

"Sai Baba went there and while He is going there you called out for Tajuddin Baba and all that and some other Baba and some other Baba, so we all came and sat there and continued with our work. Had you called out to me alone, all and everything for me, that would have been a different thing."

There is another tinge of jealousy there. But I think it is mentioned in your Hebrew scriptures and all that He is the most jealous God. Huh?

**PILGRIM # 4:** Hmm Hmm.

**ERUCH:** It is mentioned, yeah?

**PILGRIM # 4:** Yeah.

**ERUCH:** How do we inherit jealousy? It is from Him only. It's percolated into illusion like that. But it's a limited jealousy. His is terrible. He cannot stand anything!

So Him and Him alone. Yeah. No "also ran" business with Him.