

Tablets of Stone

On the third new moon after the people of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that day they came into the wilderness of Sinai... There Israel encamped before the mountain, while Moses went up to God. (Exo 19:1-3)

The LORD had led Israel out of Egypt to Mount Sinai to enter into a covenant with them (Exo 19:4-6). As a record of the terms of that covenant, God gave Moses “the tablets of **stone**” (Exo 24:12).

And he gave to Moses, when he had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai, the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written with the **finger** of God. (Exo 31:18)



But what does this have to do with our search for our King?

In **2 Corinthians 3**, the apostle Paul references these ancient tablets and makes an important **contrast** that all Christians need to understand:

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you? **You** yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. And you show that you are a letter **from** Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the **Spirit** of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human **hearts**.

Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. (3:1-4)

We'll spend some time in class discussing what Paul means, but for now, reflect on what God is telling you about the heart **he** gave you. Your heart is like a “tablet” that things can be written on, for good or bad (Prov 3:1-3).



For Class & Family Discussion:

- ▶ Notice how **Exodus 32:15-16** describes the tablets of stone. What does the narrator want to make sure we understand about the source of these tablets?
- ▶ We heard **Exodus 31:18** describe the tablets of stone as being “written with the **finger of God**.” Notice what Jesus our King said of himself in **Luke 11:14-20**. What do we need to see and understand?
- ▶ Let's read **Jeremiah 31:31-34**:
 - In your own words, what's a “covenant”?
 - What does **31:32** reveal about how seriously God takes covenants?
 - What would make this “new” covenant unique?
- ▶ When it comes to having a relationship with God, what's better—for his law to be written on stone or hearts? Why?
- ▶ What is the “confidence that we have through Christ toward God” (2 Cor 3:3-4)?