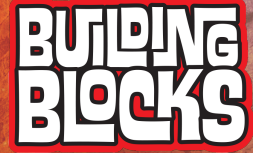


A New & Better Covenant



SEARCHING FOR THE KING

Covenant is our key word for today. A **covenant** is a **relationship** based on _____. Our God is a God of covenants. He takes covenants very seriously and expects his people to also.

But we've talked a lot in recent weeks about Israel's **unfaithfulness** to their covenant with God. So much of the bad news in the Old Testament prophets is about the consequences that are coming for Israel's rebellion against God. And yet, in **Isaiah 55:3**, God continues to invite his people:

Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting _____...

How would this "everlasting" covenant be different and better? **Jeremiah 31** is a key prophecy that helps us understand what God would eventually bring through a new and better King:

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a _____ covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their _____. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will _____ their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." (31:31-34)



How would this prophecy be fulfilled? Through Christ our King! Just listen to the way disciples of Jesus are described in **2 Corinthians 3:3-4**:

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 _____ of human hearts.

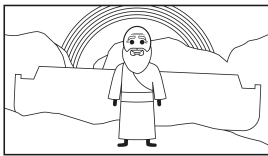
Our King is the key to a better covenant, "enacted on better promises" (**Heb 8:6**).

TIMELINE Building Blocks:

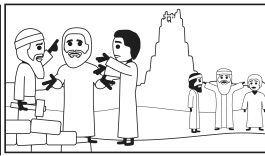
There are 17 time periods from **Creation to Revelation**. Do you remember the first 11?



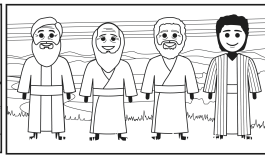
Before the Flood



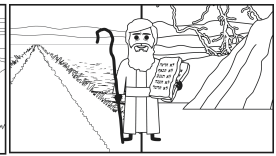
Flood



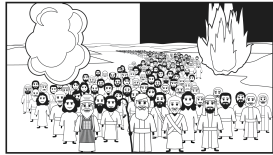
Scattering of the People



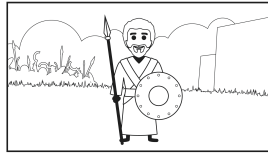
Patriarchs



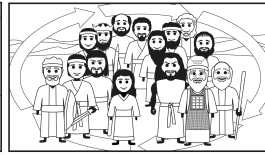
Exodus From Egypt



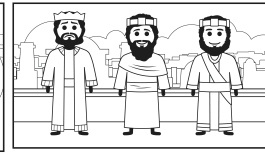
Wandering in the Wilderness



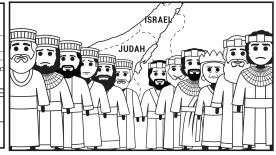
Invasion and Conquest of Canaan



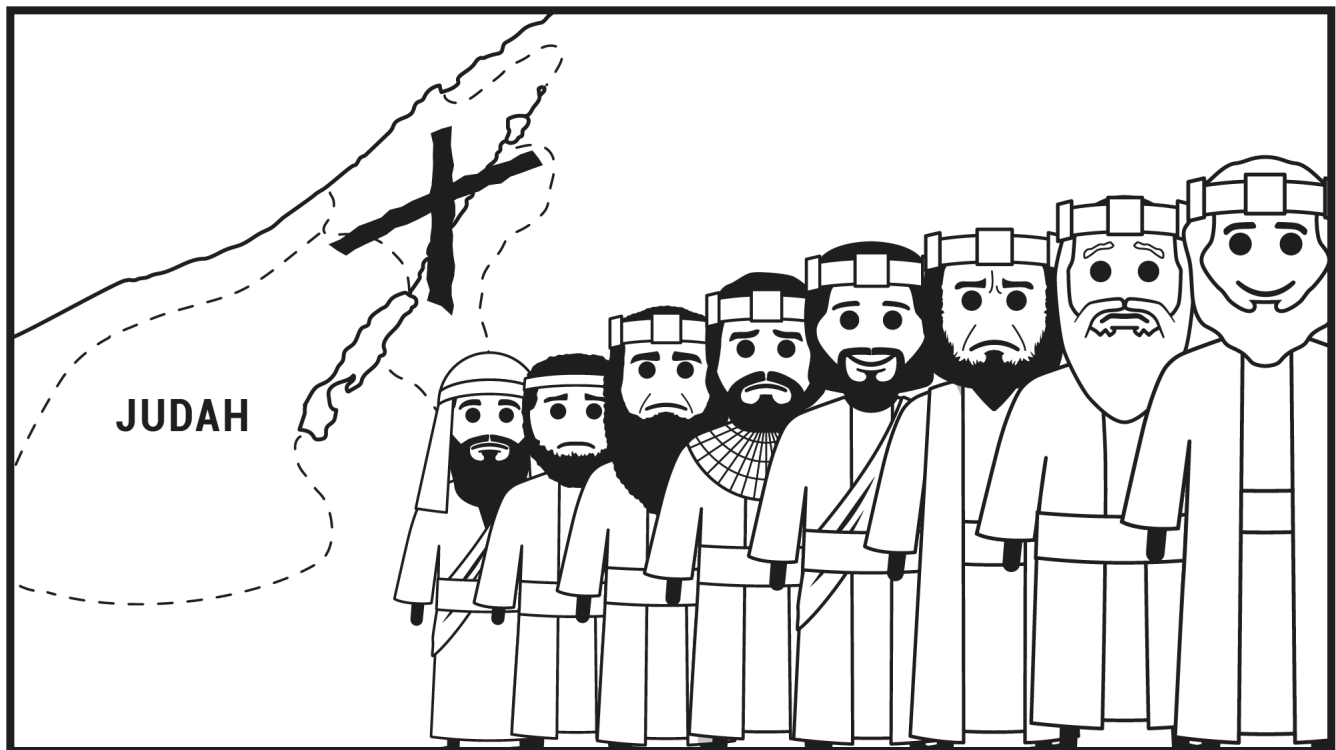
Judges



United Kingdom



Divided Kingdom



Judah Alone

So how does God “write” on “tablets of human hearts” today (2 Cor 3:3-4)? How and why is this “better” than the “old...enacted on better promises” (Heb 8:6)?

For NEXT Sunday:

► We'll look into the incredible dream of Nebuchadnezzar in **Daniel 2** and the prophecy of a kingdom “that shall never be destroyed.” What did it mean? We'll talk about it...