

Chapter 1 : Tablets of Stone versus Human Hearts

being revealed that you are a letter of Christ, served by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tablets of stone, but in tablets that are hearts of flesh. Young's Literal Translation.

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. For, the people who follow what we preach, or teach, or share, will bear the fruit of what we teach them, which will then bear testimony as to what is in our own hearts, as well as what is in theirs, and it will be a testimonial as to our own moral character and fidelity or infidelity. I am not saying that everyone who hears the words we speak or write will bear the fruit of what we present to them as truth, though, but that those who follow us, and what we present to them as truth, will be our testimonial as to whether or not what we are presenting is, indeed, truth, and is, indeed, of God. And, it will reveal, too, what is in our own hearts, and will bear testimony as to our own moral fiber. This applies to all who profess faith in Jesus Christ. How we live our lives and what we say to others may influence them to follow our examples or to follow what we say. So, we must be so careful in what we do or say and how we live our lives, for we may be leading others to follow suit. If you are a parent to small children, you may understand this in that you may witness often that your children are a reflection of you and the things that you say and do. For, small children, in particular, will repeat what they hear and they will mimic what they see their parents do, especially when they are playing pretend. But, parents are not the only influences in their lives, and children are born with certain bents themselves, so not everything a child does is the reflection of the parents, but some of it is or it can be. The Fruit of our Labors There are many professing Christians and preachers, teachers and bloggers, etc. But, they are taking liberty with the scriptures when they do this, for the scriptures are quite clear on the subjects of immorality and purity in the life of the believer in Jesus Christ. The church, overall, is on a massive spiritual decline. And, immorality within the church is rampant. And, the leadership, overall, is not doing anything about it, because so many of them are trapped in sexual sin themselves. So, going back to what Paul said at the beginning of this chapter in 2 Corinthians 3. The fruit of our labors will be evidenced in the lifestyles of those who follow us and what we teach, and that will be our letter of commendation. So, if the majority of those who call themselves Christians are following the true gospel, the end result should be that the vast majority of those professing Christians should be walking in purity, holiness, righteousness, and godliness, and they should be living lives separate from the world of sin because they are being made to be like Jesus. They should not be addicted to needing to be continuously being entertained or to be continually partaking in what is ungodly. For, there is no call to purity in this gospel, but rather this gospel coddles people in their sins and even resists purity and holiness. Change that is Necessary The true gospel, though, makes no room no provision for the flesh. It demands holiness, purity, faithfulness, integrity, honesty and love. It calls for us to live separate from the world because we are being conformed to the likeness of Christ. And, it teaches us that we will reap what we sow. All throughout the New Testament we learn that our salvation means death to sin and living to righteousness. It means that we no longer live like we did before we trusted in Christ. Do we get this? These warnings were to Christians, not to the unsaved world! Again and again we who are Christians are warned against listening to what tickles itching ears, and against following those who are teaching what is false. That theory is dispelled all throughout the New Testament. For, if we conduct our lives according to the flesh, we will die in our sins, but if by the Spirit we are putting to death the deeds of the flesh, then we will live with Christ for eternity. This is the message all throughout the New Testament. And, they are consistent. If we live to the flesh, we will die in our sins, but if we live to the Spirit, we will have eternal life with God. True belief in Jesus Christ results in a change of heart, mind and lifestyle away from living for sin and self to living to God and to his righteousness. Not saying we will never sin, or that we may not fall back into sin for a period of time and need to be revived. But, what the scriptures clearly teach is that how we live is evidence of what we believe. Our lifestyles give evidence to what is truly in our hearts and as to what gospel

we are following. Read the scriptures “ all of them in the New Testament. Ask the Lord to show you the truth. And, follow what he teaches. One day we are all going to stand before God. And, daily they should be putting to death those deeds of the flesh. So, make sure today that you are following the truth, for your life depends on it. Jesus Christ is gently calling You to follow Him in all ways. Trust Him with your life today. Make Him your Lord and your Savior. Turn from your sin. He will forgive you of your sin; Cleanse your heart, made new within. God is sovereign over all things. Nothing from His mind escaping. He has all things under His command, And will work all for good. He is our hope for our future. For our wounds He offers suture. He is all we need for this life. Sunday, November 4,

Chapter 2 : Jer Cross References (24 Verses)

A New Heart and Spirit 25 I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean. I will cleanse you from all your impurities and all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes and to carefully observe My.

Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you? Since he is forced to find something that can recommend him, he points to them: One image dissolves into another. These contrasts suggest that the other preachers may have claimed special relationship with Moses. Paul is living within a new covenant, characterized by the Spirit, which gives life. The usage of a new covenant is derived from Jer For the contrast between letter and spirit, cf. He asserts in response that Christians have a glory of their own that far surpasses that of Moses. Paul has nothing to hide and no reason for timidity. Their thoughts were rendered dull: To this present day: When they read the old covenant: When his writings are read in the synagogue, a veil still impedes their understanding. Whenever a person turns to the Lord: Moses in Exodus appeared before God without the veil and gazed on his face unprotected. Paul applies that passage to converts to Christianity: The Spirit of the Lord: All of usâ€with unveiled face: But the life-giving Spirit, the distinctive gift of the new covenant, is already present in the community cf. Into the same image:

Chapter 3 : 2 Corinthians - Sermon Writer

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I will be their God, and they will be my people. Here are three things it is not: It is not the law of Moses. As we saw in the last post, if God wrote the Ten Commandments on our hearts then Jesus died for nothing. It is not a new and improved version of the law. It is not the new commands of Jesus or the New Testament. We cannot please God by keeping a new law any more than we could please him by keeping an old one. It is not the knowledge of right and wrong that was bestowed upon us by Adam. So what is this law that the Lord writes on our hearts and minds and embeds in our very being? The law of love A new command I give you: As I have loved you, so you must love one another. Sounds good, but how does it happen? Do you see the difference between the old and new? Under the old, the law was a rule for weak men to obey. Under the new, the Law is the Spirit of Christ given to us, loving us, and loving others through us. Under the old, you loved others because you feared punishment. But under the new, you love because a Lover lives in you and it is his nature to love. Under the old, you had to make an effort to obey. But under the new you have to make an effort to disobey. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? He needed a new law and that new law is a Who: Who will rescue me? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord. The old law is a what; the new law is a Who. The old law ministers condemnation and death 2 Cor 3: For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. Not a set of rules, but the Spirit of Christ within you. One more time for emphasis: What is the perfect law that gives freedom? Well, what is the implanted word that can save you Jas 1: The perfect law of liberty describes what Jesus has done perfectly fulfilled or completed the law and the fruit he will bear in our lives liberty if we trust him. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it "not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it" they will be blessed in what they do. But look into the perfect law which is Jesus and you will be blessed, for it reveals his righteousness. In other words, allow the Spirit of Christ to convince you that in him you are righteous and holy. Fix your eyes on Jesus. Look intently with an unveiled face and be transformed into his likeness. This is describing your union with Christ. One with the Lord you have the mind of Christ 1 Cor 2: His Spirit dwells in you and teaches you all things John It is the seed of God birthed in you by the Holy Spirit. Because you are a new creation with new hopes and desires. You no longer want to sin. Christian, you are who you are because Christ lives in you. He is the new law written, by God, in your heart and mind. No spam, we promise.

Chapter 4 : Holy Spirit “ Tablets of Stone or Tablets of Flesh | Biblical Brethren Fellowship

not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart. (2 Corinthians) The old covenant of law was written upon " tablets of stone."

Stephen quoted the Lord as declaring, "I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart. God testified concerning him: He would do everything God wanted him to do. God Himself can testify to this! What an excellent example and testimony! David is a son of Jesse, a respected citizen of the city. Jesse is the grandson of Boaz, a wealthy and honorable man of Bethlehem from the tribe of Judah. She was known as a handmaid or maidservant of God, very similar to Mary, the mother of Jesus. So, what could be in the heart of David since he had two godly parents? He meditates on His Word in his heart day and night Psalm 1: He loves His Word with all his heart Psalm He delights to do His Word with all his heart Psalm He sings His Scriptures with all his heart Psalm Therefore he found favor in the sight of God Psalm He was willing to sacrifice his own life to fight the Philistine giant, Goliath for His and his people despite the fact that he was comparatively "undersized" I Samuel He then taught these same precepts to his son, Solomon who wrote Proverbs 3: My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man. The only one thing different about the Old and New Covenants is the heart factor; a heart of stone or a heart of flesh. I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God. And we have such trust through Christ toward God. Remember that the Lord gave the new covenant to the Jews many hundred years before the Last Supper. And not to create a new one! He sealed the New Covenant with His blood! I will hereby not talk too much about this New and Old Covenants. But I must stress that the Jews have something we do not yet have, and we have something that they do not yet have or have lost. The Word and the Heart. We will do everything God wants us to do.

Chapter 5 : 2 Corinthians Chapter 3 - NKJV

being revealed that you are a letter of Christ, served by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tablets of stone, but in tablets that are hearts of flesh. WE All can see that you are a letter from Christ written by us.

But as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God, we speak in Christ. Or do we need, as do some, letters of commendation to you or from you? Paul is sensitive to any charge that he is guilty of self-promotion. His consistent purpose has been the proclamation of the Gospel of Christ Jesus—“not self-serving. Paul and his coworkers have no need to commend themselves to the Corinthians—or to seek a letter of recommendation from someone else to establish their credentials with them. It is because of his ministry that they came to know Christ. Note the similarity between the Greek word diakoneo and our English word deacon. Paul and his colleagues have gone to great lengths to serve the religious needs of the Corinthians, living among them and interacting with them on a daily basis. As they traveled elsewhere, they maintained an ongoing correspondence with the Corinthian church. Paul exercised his ministry among the Corinthians by the power of the Holy Spirit, so the Corinthians can credit their faith journey to the work of the Spirit. Paul evokes the memory of Moses receiving the tablets of stone containing the law on Mount Sinai Exodus 20 —“tablets which Moses smashed when he came to the foot of the mountain and found the Israelites worshiping a golden calf of their own making Exodus The letter that speaks of the work of Paul and his colleagues is written instead on hearts of flesh—the hearts of the Corinthian Christians. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. The Greek word popoitheseos means trust or confidence or conviction. The next covenant was established between God and Abram. In return, God promised to make of Abram a great nation and to bless him and to make him a blessing to all the families of the earth Genesis While the word covenant was not used in that transaction, it bears the marks of a covenant, because God outlined what Abram would have to do and what God would do for Abram. Later, God covenanted to give the land from the river of Egypt to the river Euphrates to Abram Genesis Still later, God covenanted with Abram to make him the father of many nations, even though Abram was old and had no children other than Ishmael, his son by a slave woman. As part of the covenant, God promised to give Abram the land of Canaan. God required Abram to observe circumcision for himself and for all his male progeny and members of his household, including slaves Genesis These covenants were all preliminary to the covenant established by Jesus Matthew Jeremiah prophesied the coming of a new covenant Jeremiah A grammar is something written, such as a letter of the alphabet or a book or an epistle. Paul contrasts the written law presumably meaning the Torah with the Spirit see also Romans 2: The written law is external to the person, and is rigidly prescribed. It requires almost infinite study and interpretation to determine how it applies in every circumstance. It always has the potential to calcify—to harden into a substance that no longer exhibits the characteristics of life. It has, in fact, the power to kill, even as a calcified aortic artery has the power to kill. The Spirit, on the other hand, dwells within the person, guiding the person through the almost infinite ethical decisions that life requires us to make. Divinely driven, it is dependable, and fits all circumstances. It gives life as it steers the person through the potholes and treacheries that threaten to undo us. Barclay, William, Daily Study Bible: Letters to the Corinthians, Edinburgh: Clinton, and Newsome, James D. II Corinthians New York: Doubleday, Garland, David E. Word Books, Minor, Mitzi L. Acts and the Epistles Grand Rapids: Abingdon Press, Scott, James M. George, Believers Church Bible Commentary: Herald Press, We welcome your feedback!

Chapter 6 : A Man After God's Own Heart

Flesh and Stone is the story of the deepest parts of life—how women and men moved in public and private spaces, what they saw and heard, the smells that assailed them, where they ate, how they dressed, the mores of bathing and of making love—all in the architecture of stone and space from ancient Athens to modern New York.

And this heart of flesh can only come from God. This heart of flesh is in contrast to a heart of stone that so many people have. How can we get this heart of flesh? However if we look at the root from which bawsawr comes from, we can more clearly understand what God is talking about. Thus, it refers to the center of our very being, or who we really are. This is Important for Us This is something that we need to understand in these last days. If we want to win people over to Christ so they will not have to go through the Tribulation, we need them to see Christ in us. We need people to look at us and see our lack of fear, our love for everyone else, the peace that we have amidst all the turmoil that is around us. We need people to look at us and say: We need people to look at us and ask: Deep within each of us is a longing for God. I know that is hard for many to accept, but if the one inside you that is giving you counsel is not God, then it is an evil spirit. And remember, the only way for God to be living inside of you is to accept Jesus as your Lord and Savior. When this happens, then the Holy Spirit can come and live inside of you. When the Holy Spirit is living in you, then no evil spirit can live there. When we accept Jesus, Satan and his demons become very upset with us. But, do not worry, when we have the Holy Spirit living in us, all they can do is to tempt us. And with the Holy Spirit as our new Counselor, He will guide us away from those temptations. However, we do have to listen to Him. We can still ignore Him and go our own way. Allow the Holy Spirit to counsel you in all that you do. Allow God to mold you into the very being of love that He wants you to be. Allow God to be able to use you in these last days. Let God work through you to win others to Christ. You will know if you have received this heart of flesh by your actions. The fruit that flows from you will show what is inside of you. If you are harsh, bitter, lose your temper easily, want to control others, etc. Remember what God said in Galatians 5: Remember, we can know who our counselor is by the fruit that flows from our lives. This is why we need to talk to other born-again Christians. Allow other born-again Christians to show us what they see coming out of us. Listen to what they tell us because they will see what we cannot see. Remember, if our counselor is not the Holy Spirit, that counselor will have blinded us so that we cannot see what is coming forth from us. The Solution Spend time in prayer with God, through Jesus. Allow Him to show you what is coming forth from your flesh. Find a good Bible-believing Church and start attending. Let God work through His children to help you in your walk through life.

Chapter 7 : The Breadbox Letters: The Heart's Cry

heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh. Notice that, under the previous covenant, His people had a heart of stone. This corresponds directly to.

Text 2 Corinthians 3: Or do we need, as some others, epistles of commendation to you or letters of commendation from you? You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart. The original Ten Commandments were written by the finger of God on tablets of stone Exodus Jewish tradition says that the Ten Commandments written on stone tablets of sapphire. When rocks that are low on silica but rich in aluminum, are heated at high temperature, sapphire crystals will form. Sapphire is a gemstone that makes up the throne of God and the pavement under it. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. It was seen at Pentecost Acts 2: And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. The Holy Spirit was meant to transform life. The tablets of stone were transformed when it was touched by the Fire of God. Israel was not transformed by the Law because they did not come near God. We are exhorted to draw near to God by a new and living way! The Word of God today is written on tablets of flesh - the heart The comparison is with the Old Testament written on tablets of stone The Old Covenant - on tablets of stone the stone reflects the nature of the Law - firm, unchanging, unforgiving The New Covenant - on the heart the heart reflects the nature of Grace - loving, merciful, from the heart of God! But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ by grace you have been saved , Romans 5: But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. The High Priest in the O. Artistically woven according to the workmanship of the ephod you shall make it: It shall be doubled into a square: And you shall put settings of stones in it, four rows of stones: The first row shall be a sardius, a topaz, and an emerald; this shall be the first row; the second row shall be a turquoise, a sapphire, and a diamond; the third row, a jacinth, an agate, and an amethyst; and the fourth row, a beryl, an onyx, and a jasper. They shall be set in gold settings. And the stones shall have the names of the sons of Israel, twelve according to their names, like the engravings of a signet, each one with its own name; they shall be according to the twelve tribes. The Word of God was written by the Fire of God in our hearts so we can become precious gemstones before God! Note - there are no ordinary rocks in heaven, everything is made of gemstone or precious stones - they were all touched by the fire of God! The Word of God is alive In the O. They knew it was touched by fire, but no one can see it up close to gaze on the transforming power of God. Today, the Word of God is alive and walking around in the person of every believer! God wants the world to what happens when ordinary rock is touched by His Fire! Conclusion Have you been touched by the Fire of God? Go and walk around. Display the Word of God in your life!

Chapter 8 : 2 Corinthians - Bible Gateway

Ezekiel tells us that we need to have a heart of flesh. And this heart of flesh can only come from God. This heart of flesh is in contrast to a heart of stone that so many people have.

A Bible on our bookshelf is not enough, or even in the memory of our phone. We store valuable data carefully. What does a football fan talk about? Keep my commands and live, and my law as the apple of your eye. Because Jesus was sinless, He was qualified to bear the punishment for our sins, and to replace the Old Covenant with the New: But what does it say? We must prepare our hearts to receive the word. Of King Rehoboam it is said: Our hearts must be receptive. The word of God must be received: It is not enough to attend religious services each Sunday. The law of God must be written on our hearts. Bad things may not be written on our heart. Our degenerate society is always ready to write its godless opinions and materialistic principles on our hearts. How is this done? Mainly through the media, schools and social contacts. We must be careful what we read, what we watch, what we listen to. We must be careful who our friends are: We must also be careful who our virtual friends are. People in films can easily influence the way we think and feel. Much of this evil influence is insidious. Immorality, for example, is presented on television, in films and at school as normal, acceptable behavior, and is falsely portrayed as having no bad consequences. This is inspired by the devil. What if someone rang your doorbell each evening, came in and spent the whole evening in your home using worldly language and showing indecent pictures to your children? As a Christian, would you not show him the door and tell him he was not welcome? Yet, many Christians welcome such a visitor into their home each day. His initials are T. The Internet is also an enticing source of evil influence. If we eat garbage, we get sick. If we fill our mind with garbage, we will have a sick mind. If we look at pornography, we will develop a pornographic mind. If we fill our heart with vanity, our life will be in vain. On the other hand, if we fill our hearts with the word of God, we will be healthy and strong spiritually. Let us rededicate our hearts to God. We must redeem the time because the days are evil Ephesians 5: This means that we must spend our time profitably. Most of our day is unavoidably occupied with routine chores. Only a small part can be spent any way we wish. How do we use this prime time? Or do we waste it in self-indulgence? To allow God to write His word on our hearts we must attend services and Bible studies regularly. We need to read the Bible or listen to Bible recordings each day. If our daily schedule does not allow this, maybe we ought to rearrange our schedule. May the word of God permeate our hearts to provide spiritual guidance for our lives. Let us teach His word to our children, talk of it when we are at home, when we ride in the car, when we lie down, and when we rise up. Let us write the commands of God on the tablet of our heart. Only then may we call ourselves the people of God. Permission for reference use has been granted. Published in The Old Paths Archive [http:](http://)

Chapter 9 : Is God's word written on your heart?

2 Corinthians (HNV) being revealed that you are a letter of Messiah, ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tablets of stone, but in tablets that are hearts of flesh.

Fleshly, consisting of flesh, carnal. From sarx; similar to flesh, i. Prolonged from a primary kar; the heart, i. It is not only as written in his heart, but as seen and known by others, that they the Corinthians are as a letter of commendation. They are as a letter which Christ had written as with the finger of God. That letter, he adds, was "ministered by us. Written not with ink. In contrast with this process, he speaks of the Epistle of Christ as written with the "Spirit of the living God. So a like substitution is found in comparing "If I with the finger of God cast out devils," in Luke But in fleshy tables of the heart. The thought of the letter begins to disappear, and that of a law written on tablets takes its place, as one picture succeeds another in a dissolving view. Pulpit Commentary Verse 3. The fame and centrality of Corinth gave peculiar prominence to the fact of their conversion. The epistle of Christ ministered by us. The Corinthians are the epistle; it is written on the hearts of St. Paul and his companions; Christ was its Composer; they were its amanuenses and its conveyers. The development of the metaphor as a metaphor would be somewhat clumsy and intricate, but St. Paul only cares to shadow forth the essential fact which he wishes them to recognize. Not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; i. The notion of "the finger of God" naturally recalled the notion of "the Spirit of God" comp. Not in tables of stone. The overwhelming preponderance of manuscript authority supports the reading "but in fleshen tablets - hearts. Paul is thinking of Jeremiah Our letters of introduction are inward not outward, spiritual not material, permanent not perishable, legible to all not only by a few, written by Christ not by man. Matthew Henry Commentary 3: Nothing is more delightful to faithful ministers, or more to their praise, than the success of their ministry, as shown in the spirits and lives of those among whom they labour. The law of Christ was written in their hearts, and the love of Christ shed abroad there. Nor was it written in tables of stone, as the law of God given to Moses, but on the fleshy not fleshly, as fleshliness denotes sensuality tables of the heart, Eze Their hearts were humbled and softened to receive this impression, by the new-creating power of the Holy Spirit. He ascribes all the glory to God. And remember, as our whole dependence is upon the Lord, so the whole glory belongs to him alone. The Old Testament dispensation was the ministration of death, but the New Testament of life. The law made known sin, and the wrath and curse of God; it showed us a God above us, and a God against us; but the gospel makes known grace, and Emmanuel, God with us. Therein the righteousness of God by faith is revealed; and this shows us that the just shall live by his faith; this makes known the grace and mercy of God through Jesus Christ, for obtaining the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. The gospel so much exceeds the law in glory, that it eclipses the glory of the legal dispensation. But even the New Testament will be a killing letter, if shown as a mere system or form, and without dependence on God the Holy Spirit, to give it a quickening power.