

**MOAB'S PATRIARCHAL  
STONE: BEING AN ACCOUNT  
OF THE MOABITE STONE,  
ITS STORY AND TEACHING**

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Moab's Patriarchal Stone: Being an Account of the Moabite Stone, Its Story and Teaching by  
James King

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**JAMES KING**

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STONE:

BEING AN ACCOUNT OF THE MOABITE STONE,  
ITS STORY AND TEACHING.

BY THE REV. JAMES KING, M.A.,

AUTHORIZED LECTURER TO THE PALESTINE  
EXPLORATION FUND.

"Enquire, I pray thee, of the former age, and prepare thyself  
to the search of their fathers."—*Job viii. 9.*



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TO JAMES RIDGERS, ESQ.,

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED BY THE AUTHOR AS A  
TOKEN OF ESTEEM AND  
GRATITUDE.



## PREFACE.

**T**HE substance of the following pages has often been presented to the public in the form of lectures on the Moabite Stone, delivered in many towns of England on behalf of the Palestine Exploration Fund. This little treatise does not lay claim to much originality, inasmuch as the subject matter has been drawn from every available source, but chiefly are we indebted to the learned labours on the subject of Monsieur Clermont Ganneau, Rev. F. A. Klein, Captain Warren, Emanuel Deutsch, George Grove, Esq., Professor Weir, Captain Burton, Professor Wright, Dr. Davidson, Professor G. Rawlinson, author of "The Moabite Stone" in "The Recovery of Jerusalem," Dean Walsh, and Canon Tristram. Neither indeed can it boast of deep scholarship, for although it aims at more than a superficial exposition of the stone, yet the knowledge brought to bear on the subject is the fruit of other men's labours. The transliteration of the primitive alpha-

bet found on the inscription into the square Hebrew characters used at present does not seem necessary in order to understand and appreciate the teaching of this ancient monument. This treatise is not designed for critical scholars, and, therefore, we think it desirable not to introduce the modern square letters, which, strictly speaking, are Chaldaic and not Hebrew, but rather to apply ourselves to the study of the primitive characters found on the stone, characters which furnish an alphabet exactly the same as the old Hebrew, and are, moreover, the original forms of nearly all the alphabets used by modern European nations. We have endeavoured, as far as possible, to harmonize the apparently conflicting accounts connected with the discovery of the monument and the efforts made to secure it, while we leave our readers to judge for themselves respecting the degree of praise or censure to be given to those gentlemen engaged in the matter. An attempt has been made to bring out into bold relief the chief gains to paleography and revealed religion; and by fitting together the pith of what may be called the literature of the Stone, we have endeavoured to present to our readers an unbroken record of this triumphal tablet, its story, and its teaching. Our earnest wish is that the perusal of these pages may tend to strengthen Faith, animate Hope, and increase veneration for the Sacred Volume.