

Obadiah – 16 April 2026

“The Pride That Divides”

Introduction

*Nearly nothing is known about the man Obadiah

*His name means ‘servant of Yahweh’

*Speaking of Obadiah’s authenticity

*In 190 BC, the Book of Sirach speaks of the 12 prophets (being the minor prophets)

*Obadiah was included in the Dead Sea Scrolls, dated to circa 190 BC

*Though we don’t know much of the man Obadiah, we know that it was God who preserved this writing for all time and for us

*The book’s subject is the small country of Edom and ‘The pride that divides’

Today, we’ll see 3 things that pride will separate us from

#1 – Separated from faith: Edom’s pride in trusting themselves (Chap 1:1-9)

Read 1:1

1. Obadiah gets a vision in which a herald is sent among the nations to call them to battle against Edom
2. There is spiritual activity long before physical activity

Read 1:2-4

1. Edom’s great sin of pride
 - a. Pride in their situation in the rock
 - b. Pride in their security within themselves
2. Pride will make you ‘greatly despised’ by others
 - a. Pride makes others want to bring you down (Read Prov 16:18-19)
3. Do you have people trying to beat you down?
 - a. Could it be b/c of your own pride (Read Prov 13:10 KJV)

Read 1:5-6

1. The destruction of Edom will be complete
(Read Jer 49:17-18)
2. This isn't like a selfish invader that just wants to gain "the stuff"
 - a. This is a *vengeful* invasion to destroy

Read 1:7

1. Even prideful Edom's close allies turn on them
2. Have you ever had a prideful boss that's in great power and at their weakest moment people pounce at the chance to bring them down?

Read 1:8-9

1. This is also given in (Read) Jer 49:7
2. Job's friend Eliphaz was from Teman, Edom
3. The strong have no strength against God's plan
4. The wise have no method against God's plan
5. Never be lifted in pride to think that we're not under God's authority and reign

#2 – Separated from fellowship: Edom’s hatred of Israel (Chap 1:10-14)

Read 1:10-11

1. Edom is promised to be ended as a nation
 - a. They’re overrun by Nabateans & migrated to Judah, becoming the Idumeans in Jesus’ day
 - b. The people who remain from judgment are offered to repent and come to Christ (Read Jer 49:10-11)

Read 1:12-14

1. Don’t rejoice in your brother’s punishment (vs 12)
2. Don’t take advantage of your brother in a vulnerable state (vs 13)
3. Don’t bring great calamity on your brother in their vulnerable state (vs 14)
4. Take each of these and turn them around to know what to do

#3 – Separated from forever: The Day of the Lord Divides (Chap 1:15-21)

Read 1:15-16

1. Consider this response from God
 - a. This *isn't* vengeance – He's not punishing them beyond what they deserve
 - b. This *is* simple justice – Giving them what they do deserve (Read Gal 6:7)
 - c. But what He wants to give them is *mercy & grace* – He wants to pardon and forgive those that come to Him (Read Jer 49:10-11)

Read 1:17-18

1. The Day of the Lord is justice for God's enemies, but salvation for God's people, Israel
2. Apart from the cross of Christ & His salvation, there is no hope for the unbelievers
 - a. For the believer, it's completely different (Read Psm 30:5)

- b. We get to live through sorrow, *with a sure hope*

Read 1:19-20

1. Even as Edom is being destroyed in the Day of the Lord, Israel will be expanding into the land God promised to them

Read 1:21

1. They are ‘saviors’ in the sense of deliverers
 - a. These believers take back possession of Jerusalem in the last days and usher in the Kingdom of God
2. We end with the joyous 1,000-year reign of King Jesus on this rejuvenated earth
 - a. The Lord reigns; let the earth be glad

Conclusion

So, there are 3 things that pride in yourself will keep you from

1. **Pride separates** you from Faith: It makes you self-dependent
2. Pride separates you from Friends: Nobody wants to be around a bragger
1. Pride separated you from Forever: The Day of the Lord Divide believers from unbelievers

So, how are we doing with our pride? Do we have pride in ourselves or in Jesus Christ?

There are two choices

We can lift up *ourselves* up: What is highly esteemed among men, is an abomination in the sight of God

We can lift up *Jesus Christ*: “If I be lifted up, I will draw all men unto Myself” for eternal salvation