

A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title
Pride Before Destruction
Obadiah 1-14

Obadiah 1-14 (ESV)

The vision of Obadiah.

Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom:

We have heard a report from the LORD,
and a messenger has been sent among the nations:

“Rise up! Let us rise against her for battle!”

Behold, I will make you small among the nations;
you shall be utterly despised.

The pride of your heart has deceived you,

you who live in the clefts of the rock,

in your lofty dwelling,

who say in your heart,

“Who will bring me down to the ground?”

Though you soar aloft like the eagle,

though your nest is set among the stars,

from there I will bring you down, declares the LORD.

If thieves came to you,

if plunderers came by night—

how you have been destroyed!—

would they not steal only enough for themselves?

If grape gatherers came to you,

would they not leave gleanings?

How Esau has been pillaged,

his treasures sought out!

All your allies have driven you to your border;

those at peace with you have deceived you;

they have prevailed against you;

those who eat your bread have set a trap beneath you—

you have no understanding.

Will I not on that day, declares the LORD,

destroy the wise men out of Edom,

and understanding out of Mount Esau?

And your mighty men shall be dismayed, O Teman,

so that every man from Mount Esau will be cut off by slaughter.

Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob,

shame shall cover you,

and you shall be cut off forever.

On the day that you stood aloof,

on the day that strangers carried off his wealth
and foreigners entered his gates
and cast lots for Jerusalem,
you were like one of them.

But do not gloat over the day of your brother
in the day of his misfortune;
do not rejoice over the people of Judah
in the day of their ruin;
do not boast
in the day of distress.
Do not enter the gate of my people
in the day of their calamity;
do not gloat over his disaster
in the day of his calamity;
do not loot his wealth
in the day of his calamity.
Do not stand at the crossroads
to cut off his fugitives;
do not hand over his survivors
in the day of distress.

Slide 6: Image 1 (Attached)

Slide 7:
Backstory of Edom and Israel

Slide 8:
Abraham and Sarah
Isaac and Rebekah
Esau and Jacob
Jacob = Israel
Esau = Edom

Slide 9:
Numbers 20:14-18

Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom: "Thus says your brother Israel: You know all the hardship that we have met...And the Egyptians dealt harshly with us and our fathers. And here we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge of your territory. Please let us pass through your land. We will not pass through field or vineyard, or drink water from a well. We will go along the King's Highway. We will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through your territory."

But Edom said to him, "You shall not pass through, lest I come out with the sword against you."

Slide 10:
The Lessons For Us

I. Pride Goes Before Destruction (Proverbs 16:18)

Slide 11:
3 Symptoms of Pride (in view of suffering)

1. We become detached over engaged

Obadiah 11 (ESV)

On the day that you stood aloof, on the day that strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them.

Slide 12:

2. We gloat when we should cry

Obadiah 12 (ESV)

But do not gloat over the day of your brother in the day of his misfortune; do not rejoice over the people of Judah in the day of their ruin; do not boast in the day of distress.

Slide 13:

3. We wield punishment over restoration

Obadiah 14 (ESV)

Do not stand at the crossroads to cut off his fugitives; do not hand over his survivors in the day of distress.

Slide 14:
The Lessons For Us

I. Pride Goes Before Destruction (Proverbs 16:18)

II. God is Sovereign and We Are Responsible For Our Choices

Slide 15:
God's sovereignty and are "free will" are not in conflict

Slide 16:

Why they are not in conflict

1) We have free will but not autonomy

Slide 17:

Why they are not in conflict

1) We have free will but not autonomy

2) "Free will" is not so free

Slide 18:
The Lessons For Us

I. Pride Goes Before Destruction (Proverbs 16:18)

II. God is Sovereign and We Are Responsible For Our Choices

III. No Edomites are Saved

Slide 19:
Why is this true?
1) Edom has been destroyed
2) Our identity (hope) cannot be in nationality

B. GROUP DISCUSSION/QUESTIONS

1. Please read all of the book of Obadiah
2. Talk about the effects of pride in our lives, most specifically in relation to suffering? What are the prideful ways Edom responded to Judah/Jerusalem's suffering?
3. What would be humble/repentant responses to the suffering in the lives of others?
4. What is the difference between our will as volitional creatures, and our autonomy? What does the "world" (culture/media) tell us about who we are, and our freedom?
5. Share together about all of the places we so easily begin to place our identity (hope) without even really knowing that we are doing it? In what way are our feelings of anger/anxiety/joy indicators of where we have our identity?
6. Prayer and praise