

Appendix L

The Destruction of Edom

Now these are the generations of Esau, who is Edom. (Ge 36:1)

Throughout the prophets the destruction of Edom is foretold. It is their involvement in the persecution of Judah and the people of Jerusalem both past and present that will lead to God judging them and their land.

Overview of Esau:

1. Esau was the twin brother of Jacob.
2. Esau was the founder of Edom, making him the father of the Edomites.
3. The Edomites initially inhabited lower southeast of the Dead Sea what we call today Southern Jordan.
4. They eventually migrated into Israel, maintaining a population in both places.
5. They later assumed the Greek name Idumeans.

The Reason for the Destruction of Edom

1. Esau despising of his birthright (Gen. 25:29-34; Hebrews 12:16, 17). Esau's feeling of being deceived by his brother Jacob both in the issue of his "birthright" and "blessings"

*And he said, Is not he rightly named Jacob? for he hath supplanted me these two times: he took away my **birthright**; and, behold, now he hath taken away my **blessing**. And he said, Hast thou not reserved a blessing for me? (Ge 27:36)*

This is the beginning of the "perpetual hatred" issue mentioned in Ezek. 35:5.

And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob. (Ge 27:41)

2. Edomites refusal to let Israel pass through their land (Numbers 20:14-21)
3. Edomites we continually uniting with foreign invaders against Judah (2 Chron. 28:17; I Kings 11:14; 2 Kings 8:22).

4. Edomites union with the Babylonians for the destruction of Jerusalem (Psalm 137:7-9). The Idumeans joined the army of Nebuchadnezzar against their brethren the Jews; and that they were main instruments in razing the walls of Jerusalem even to the ground (Jer. 12:6; 25:14; La. 4:21, 22; Eze. 25:12; Ob 1:11-14)

5. Edomites involvement in the future satanic confederacy of the nations against Israel (Psalm 83 cf. Obadiah 1:7-14).

Prophetical Books / Passages that deal with the destruction of Edom:

1. Obadiah / Isaiah: 34; 63 / Ezekiel: 25; 35; 36