LESSON 4: THE DAY OF THE LORD & THE TRIUMPH OF THE KINGDOM

PASSAGE: OBADIAH 1:15–21

In Lesson 3, God brought a formal courtroom indictment against Edom for standing aloof in passive treason, gloating, plundering, and ambushing their twin brother Jacob during Jerusalem's fall (vv. 10–14). Now in verses 15–21, Obadiah widens the lens from a local border dispute to the cosmic Day of the Lord (*Yom YHWH*). The cup of judgment that hostile nations forced Jerusalem to drink will be turned back upon them until they are consumed like dry stubble. In a total divine reversal, Mount Zion stands as a sanctuary of holiness, God's scattered people repossess their full geographic heritage, and human pride gives way to YHWH's eternal reign: *"And the kingdom shall be the LORD's."*

MANUSCRIPT TEXT & EXEGETICAL NOTES

MARGINS / NOTES	SCRIPTURE TEXT
The Cosmic Scope: Day of YHWH (v. 15) ● *Yom YHWH*: Cosmic, inescapable judgment ● "Near upon all the nations" (Global scope) ● Edom is the historical archetype of human pride **Lex Talionis: Divine Retribution** ● "As you have done, it shall be done to you" ● The moral boomerang: Reprisal returns on your head ● Sins against covenant kin carry amplified gravity	**15** "For the day of the Lord upon all the nations is near; As you have done, it shall be done to you; Your reprisal shall return upon your own head. **16** For as you drank on My holy mountain, So shall all the nations drink continually; Yes, they shall drink and swallow down, And they shall be as though they had never been. **17** "But on Mount Zion there shall be deliverance, And there shall be holiness; The house of Jacob shall possess their possessions. **18** The house of Jacob shall be a fire, And the house of Joseph a flame; But the house of Esau shall be stubble;

MARGINS / NOTES	SCRIPTURE TEXT
The Cup of Wrath & Reversal (v. 16) ● Drunken party on "My holy mountain" (Profanation) ● Hostile nations forced to drink judgment continually ● "They shall be as though they had never been" **Mount Zion: Sanctuary of Deliverance (v. 17)** ● Contrast: Esau erased vs. Zion delivered ● "There shall be holiness" (Consecration) ● "House of Jacob shall possess their possessions" **Fire & Stubble Metaphor (v. 18)** ● Jacob/Joseph = Fire & Flame; Esau = Dry Stubble ● Literal fulfillment: Idumeans erased by AD 70 ● Sealed: "For the LORD has spoken" **Geographic Repossession (vv. 19–20)** ● Negeb possesses Mount Esau (Edom occupied) ● Shephelah occupies Philistia (Coastlands) ● Ephraim, Samaria & Gilead repossessed ● Captives possess land as far as	They shall kindle them and devour them, And no survivor shall remain of the house of Esau,” For the Lord has spoken. **19** The South shall possess the mountains of Esau, And the Lowland shall possess Philistia. They shall possess the fields of Ephraim And the fields of Samaria. Benjamin shall possess Gilead. **20** And the captives of this host of the children of Israel Shall possess the land of the Canaanites as far as Zarephath. The captives of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad Shall possess the cities of the South. **21** Then saviors shall come up on Mount Zion To judge the mountains of Esau, And the kingdom shall be the Lord’s.

MARGINS / NOTES	SCRIPTURE TEXT
Zarephath **The Ultimate Kingdom Climax (v. 21)** ● "Saviors / Deliverers" on Mount Zion ● Herod the Idumean failed; King Jesus reigns forever ● **Eschatological Crown:** "And the kingdom shall be the LORD's!"	

DISCOVERY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. _____

   THE SIN OF DOING NOTHING (v. 11): Edom's initial guilt was standing aloof while strangers raided Jerusalem—a literal illustration of Numbers 32:23 ("your sin will find you out") where the sin is passive inaction. Where in your life or community are you tempted to stay "neutral" when you ought to stand up for righteousness and protect a brother under attack?

2. **DRINKING THE CUP OF WRATH (v. 16):** Edom celebrated over Judah's downfall on Mount Zion, so God decreed that hostile nations would drink the staggering cup of His judgment until consumed. How does contemplating Jesus drinking the full cup of God's wrath on our behalf at Calvary (Matthew 26:39) deepen your gratitude for the gospel?

3. **THE ETERNAL REIGN OF YHWH (v. 21):** Moseley notes that King Herod (an Idumean/Edomite) tried to murder the infant Messiah, but Herod died while Christ rose to claim an everlasting kingdom. How does knowing that "the kingdom shall be the LORD's" give you peace when earthly politics and cultural chaos feel overwhelming?