

MANUSCRIPT STUDY HANDOUT
OBADIAH: THE DOOM OF EDM & THE KINGDOM OF GOD

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LESSON 3: Sins of the Broth & Cruelty At the Crossroads

PASSAGE: OBADIAH 1:10-14

In Lessons 1 and 2, YHWH declared the ultimate overthrow of Edom, stripping away their high rock fortresses, hidden mountain wealth, political alliances, and worldly wisdom (vv. 1–9). Now in verses 10–14, God brings the formal **indictment** against Edom, laying out the exact moral reasons for their divine judgment. Obadiah takes us back to 586 BC during the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem. Rather than helping their twin brother Jacob, Edom stood aloof in passive treason, gloated over his destruction, substituted national pride and false gods for YHWH, pillaged his ruins, and ambushed escaping refugees at the crossroads

MARGINS / NOTES	SCRIPTURE TEXT
The Relational Weight of Sin Ancestral ties track back to Isaac. Hebrew Chamas: unjust physical violence and outrage against covenant kin. The Sin of Passive Inaction Hindering God’s plan:Echos Numbers 20 when Edom blocked Israel’s march to Promise Land. Remaining a passive spectator in a brother’s crisis. Numbers 32:23 inaction in the face of oppression registers in heaven as active alliance with the enemy Heart of Arrogance and False Gods. Abandoned YHWH for local idols	10 “For violence against your brother Jacob, Shame shall cover you, And you shall be cut off forever. 11 In the day that you stood on the other side— In the day that strangers carried captive his forces, When foreigners entered his gates And cast lots for Jerusalem— Even you were as one of them. 12 But you should not have gazed[a] on the day of your brother [b]In the day of his captivity; Nor should you have

to preserve national autonomy (2 Chron 25) Arrogant boasting over a fallen brother Craving power and status (<i>Bruce Wayne, not Alfred</i>) over humble service Material Exploitation Misinterpreting God's temporary discipline of Judah as permanent abandonment Trespassing broken city gates to pillage a brother's remaining wealth Trapp's Rule: "<i>Sin proceeds by degrees...</i>" Inaction → Gloating → Plunder Cruelty at the Crossroads Blocking narrow canyon escape passes into the southern desert slaughtering defenseless refugees or selling them to Babylon for profit Edom hunted their brother; Jesus stood at our crossroads on the cross to deliver us to life (1 John 3:16) God actively sees, intervenes, and executes retribution on behalf of His people	rejoiced over the children of Judah In the day of their destruction; Nor should you have spoken proudly In the day of distress. 13 You should not have entered the gate of My people In the day of their calamity. Indeed, you should not have [c]gazed on their affliction In the day of their calamity, Nor laid <i>hands</i> on their substance In the day of their calamity. 14 You should not have stood at the crossroads To cut off those among them who escaped; Nor should you have [d]delivered up those among them who remained In the day of distress.
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DISCOVERY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **HINDERING GOD'S REDEMPTIVE PLAN (vv. 10–11):** Edom's hostility in 586 BC echoed their refusal to let Israel pass through their land in Numbers 20—they prioritized national self-interest over God's redemptive purpose. Where are you tempted to let personal comfort, career ambitions, or political tribalism hinder God's plan for your life or His church?
2. **THE IDOLATRY OF SELF-GOVERNANCE & NATIONAL PRIDE:** Edom abandoned YHWH's truth for local gods (2 Chron 25) because submitting to God felt like giving up independence. In what ways does our modern culture worship the "gods" of individual autonomy, moral relativism, or civil religion over the absolute truth of Scripture?
3. **THE DESIRE TO BE HERO, NOT SERVANT:** Human pride craves the limelight ("*Bruce Wayne, not Alfred*"), preferring ownership and power over humble service. How does Jesus' model of sacrificial servant leadership confront our natural desire for status and control?
4. **CUTTING OFF THE GRADUAL DESCENT (vv. 12–14):** Trapp noted that "*Sin proceeds by degrees.*" Edom moved from doing nothing → to gloating → to looting → to violence. What subtle "first steps" of bitterness do you need to confess before they mature into destructive action?