

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

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LESSON 2: TOTAL PLUNDER & SHATTERED WISDOM

PASSAGE: OBADIAH 1:5–9

In Lesson 1, we saw Edom standing arrogantly in their high rock fortresses of Sela, shouting, "*Who will bring me down?*" (vv. 1–4). Now in verses 5–9, Obadiah continues our prequel journey by revealing the absolute completeness of Edom's coming overthrow. God systematically breaks Edom's four proud pillars of false security: their hidden mountain wealth, their political alliances, their world-renowned worldly wisdom, and their military strength.

MARGINS / NOTES	SCRIPTURE TEXT
Exhaustive Plunder Thieves take only "enough" Grape-gatherers leave gleanings Divine judgment leaves nothing	5 "If thieves had come to you, If robbers by night— Oh, how you will be cut off!— Would they not have stolen till they had enough? If grape-gatherers had come to you, Would they not have left <i>some</i> gleanings?
Pillages Mountain Vaults Esau's hidden treasures searched No secret cave remains safe	6 "Oh, how Esau shall be searched out! <i>How</i> his hidden treasures shall be sought after!
The Sting Of Treachery Betrayed by covenant allies Forced out to the border Snare laid by those who ate bread "No awareness/understanding"	7 All the men in your confederacy Shall force you to the border; The men at peace with you Shall deceive you <i>and</i> prevail against you. <i>Those who eat</i> your bread shall lay a [a]trap for you. No[b] one is aware of it.
Shattered Wordly Wisdom Temanite scribal wisdom destroyed Human intellect made foolish Mighty warriors paralyzed in dismay Complete slaughter of Esau	8 "Will I not in that day," says the LORD, "Even destroy the wise <i>men</i> from Edom, And understanding from the mountains of Esau?" 9 Then your mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, To the end that everyone from the mountains of Esau May be cut off by slaughter.

DISCOVERY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **THE TRAP OF WORLDLY ALLIANCES:** Edom relied on foreign treaties and double-dealing partners rather than seeking YHWH, only to be double-crossed by the very allies who ate their bread (v. 7). Where are you tempted to compromise biblical values or rely on ungodly alliances and earthly strategies to secure your career, finances, or peace?
2. **THE SUBSTITUTION OF HUMAN INTELLECT:** Teman was world-famous for its scholars and philosophy, but God declared He would destroy their wise men and render their understanding useless (vv. 8–9). How can you ensure your education, planning, and everyday decision-making are rooted in the "wisdom from above" (James 3:17) rather than earthly self-reliance?