

**A MINOR PROPHET
WITH A MAJOR MESSAGE**

THE BOOK OF OBADIAH

Overcoming Pride



A 5-Day Devotional Guide

Day 1 - The Deception of Pride

Scripture:

The pride of your heart has deceived you. Obadiah 1:3

Key Truth:

Pride lies to us before it destroys us.

Obadiah is the shortest book in the Old Testament, but it carries a thunderous message. God confronts Edom, a nation that felt safe in its rocky heights. They thought their position made them untouchable. But God saw the real danger: not their enemies outside the walls, but pride inside their hearts.

Pride rarely begins with open rebellion. It usually begins with a quiet whisper: I am right. I am safe. I do not need correction. I can handle this myself. That is why pride is so dangerous. It convinces us we are standing strong when we are actually drifting from dependence on God.

The first step in overcoming pride is not trying to look humble. It is letting God tell us the truth. Humility begins with a prayer like this: "Lord, show me what I cannot see." That prayer may sting, but it also heals.

God does not expose pride to shame us. He exposes it to save us. Pride builds a fortress around the heart. Grace opens the gate.

Reflect:

Where am I most tempted to say, "I do not need help"?

What correction have I been resisting?

Prayer:

Lord, search my heart. Show me where pride has deceived me, and give me grace to receive Your correction with humility.

Day 2 - When Pride Looks Down on Others

Scripture:

Do not gloat over your brother in the day of his misfortune. Obadiah 1:12

Key Truth:

Pride turns compassion into comparison.

Edom and Israel were related people. Their story went all the way back to Esau and Jacob. Yet when Jerusalem suffered, Edom did not grieve. They watched. They gloated. They seemed to enjoy seeing their brother brought low.

That is one of pride's ugliest symptoms. Instead of saying, "How can I help?" pride says, "At least I am not like them." Instead of weeping with those who weep, pride feels superior because someone else has fallen.

This can happen in ordinary ways. We hear about another person's mistake and feel better about ourselves. We see a family struggle and quietly think we would have handled it better. We forget how much mercy God has shown us.

Humility remembers that every person who falls is someone God loves. A broken life is a call to compassion, not celebration. The Cross leaves no room for arrogance, because at the foot of the cross we are all needy recipients of mercy.

Reflect:

How do I usually respond when someone else fails?

Who do I need to stop judging and start praying for?

Prayer:

Father, forgive me for looking down on people You called me to love. Make me compassionate, merciful, and humble.

Day 3 - The Sin of Standing By

Scripture:

On the day you stood aloof...you were like one of them. Obadiah 1:11

Key Truth:

Pride can show up in what we refuse to do.

Edom's guilt was not only that they attacked. It was also that they stood aloof. They saw their brother in trouble and chose distance over involvement. They decided another person's suffering was none of their concern.

Pride does not always look loud or aggressive. Sometimes pride looks passive. It says, "I do not want to get involved. That is their problem. Someone else can help." But love moves toward need. Humility refuses to use comfort as an excuse for silence.

Jesus told a story about a man beaten and left beside the road. Two religious men passed by, but a Samaritan stopped. The difference was not that the Samaritan had less to do. The difference was that he let compassion interrupt him.

Obadiah reminds us that indifference can become participation. Humility asks, "Lord, what would love require of me here?" That question can change a conversation, a family, a church, and a life.

Reflect:

Where have I been standing aloof?

What small act of love could I take today?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, do not let me hide behind comfort or convenience. Give me a humble heart that moves toward people with Your love.

Day 4 - The Day God Brings Pride Down

Scripture:

As you have done, it shall be done to you. Obadiah 1:15

Key Truth:

God is patient with pride, but He is never impressed by it.

Obadiah's message is strong because pride is serious. Edom thought their mountain strongholds made them untouchable. Their alliances seemed dependable. Their confidence felt justified. But God declared that what they had done to others would return upon them.

That is not petty revenge. It is holy justice. Pride forgets that God sees everything: every motive, every word, every hidden attitude, every moment we used strength to serve ourselves instead of others. Pride may win applause for a season, but it never wins before God.

This is both warning and mercy. God warns us because He loves us too much to let pride grow unchecked. The longer pride remains unchallenged, the more damage it does. It hardens hearts, blinds judgment, wounds relationships, and resists repentance.

The good news is that we can humble ourselves now. We can confess quickly. We can make things right. The safest place is not the mountain of self-confidence. It is the mercy of God.

Reflect:

What attitude or relationship needs repentance before it becomes ruin?

Where do I need to make something right?

Prayer:

God of mercy, humble me before pride hurts me and those around me. Teach me to confess quickly and walk honestly before You.

Day 5 - The Kingdom Belongs to the Lord

Scripture:

And the kingdom shall be the LORD's. Obadiah 1:21

Key Truth:

Humility grows when we remember who truly reigns.

Obadiah does not end with Edom's pride. It ends with God's Kingdom. The final word is not human arrogance, earthly power, personal revenge, or false security. The final word is this: "The kingdom shall be the LORD's."

Pride always tries to build a little kingdom of its own. It wants control, recognition, the last word, and the highest seat. But humility gladly steps down from the throne because it knows the throne was never ours to occupy.

When we remember that the kingdom belongs to the Lord, we can apologize without losing our identity. We can serve without needing applause. We can forgive without keeping score. We can admit weakness because God is strong. We can take the lower place because Jesus has already taken the lowest place for us.

The cure for pride is not self-hatred. It is worship. Worship puts God back in His rightful place and puts us back in ours: loved, forgiven, dependent, and free. So lay down the crown. Trust the King. The kingdom is the Lord's.

Reflect:

What little kingdom am I trying to control?

How can I practice humility today in one visible way?

Prayer:

Lord, the kingdom belongs to You. I lay down my pride, my control, and my need to be first. Teach me to walk humbly with You.
