

## The Book of OBADIAH

**Date:** 587 B.C.

**The Book:** The shortest book in the Old Testament. It's been said that "Obadiah is a little book, but it is an example of an atomic bomb in the Bible. It is a small thing, but it has a potent message."

**The Author:** Obadiah's name means "the servant of Jehovah." Background information on the life and ministry of the prophet Obadiah is non-existent. The only information we have is what he wrote in this prophecy. Because of the time period of when this prophecy took place we believe that Obadiah was a contemporary of Jeremiah (587 B.C.). This prophecy coincides with King Nebuchadnezzar's Babylonian Empire conquering Jerusalem and taking captives to Babylon. Verse 11 reveals this scenario, "*In the day that you stood on the other side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even you were as one of them.*"

**Theme:** **The judgment of Edom!** Edom is going to be judged because of its arrogance and cruelty to Judah. *The following verses declare Edom's judgment:* (v2) "I will make you small among the nations" (v3) "the pride of your heart has deceived you" (v5) "how you will be cut off!" (v6) "How Esau shall be searched out!" (v9) your mighty men O Teman, shall be dismayed" (v10) "shame shall cover you" (v10) "you shall be cut off forever" (v15) "as you have done, it shall be done to you" (v17-21) "no survivor shall remain of the house of Esau"

**Key Verses:** (v6) "*How are the things of Esau searched out! How are his hidden things sought up!*"

(v21) "*Then saviors shall come to Mount Zion to judge the mountains of Esau, and the kingdom shall be the LORD's*"

**Christ in Obadiah-** Christ is seen in Obadiah as the Judge of the nations (15-16), the Savior of Israel (17-20), and the Possessor of the kingdom (21).

**History of Edom:** Begins in Genesis ch. 25:22-23; chapters 26-27 with Esau, a man of the flesh & Jacob, a man of faith. They became feuding brothers, which lead to battling nations, (Edomites against the Israelites)! When Israel needed help against its enemies the Edomites joined the enemy to fight against Israel and God has not forgotten.

### OUTLINE OF OBADIAH

- I) JUDGMENT OF EDOM'S PRIDE (v1-9)
- II) JUDGMENT OF EDOM'S VIOLENCE (v10-14)
- III) JUDGMENT OF EDOM'S ALLIANCES (v15-16)
- IV) FINAL JUDGEMENT OF EDOM—FUTURE HOPE OF ISRAEL (v17-21)