

The Book of Obadiah

The Kingdom Shall Be the Lord's



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Redeemer Church of Waterford

The Book of Obadiah

The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016.
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¹ The vision of Obadiah.

Edom Will Be Humbled

Thus says the Lord God concerning Edom:

We have heard a report from the Lord,

and a messenger has been sent among the nations:

“Rise up! Let us rise against her for battle!”

² Behold, I will make you small among the nations;
you shall be utterly despised.^[a]

[Esau’s strength was His Weakness]

³ The pride of your heart has deceived you,
you who live in the clefts of the rock,^[b]
in your lofty dwelling,

who say in your heart,

“Who will bring me down to the ground?”

⁴ Though you soar aloft like the eagle,
though your nest is set among the stars,
from there I will bring you down,

declares the Lord.

[verses 4 – 6 are an interlude describing the future complete devastation of Edom]

⁵ If thieves came to you,
if plunderers came by night—
how you have been destroyed!—
would they not steal only enough for themselves?

If grape gatherers came to you,
would they not leave gleanings?

⁶ How Esau has been pillaged,
his treasures sought out!

⁷ All your allies have driven you to your border;
those at peace with you have deceived you;

they have prevailed against you;

those who eat your bread^[c] have set a trap beneath you—
you have^[d] no understanding.

⁸ Will I not on that day, declares the Lord,

destroy the wise men out of Edom,
and understanding out of Mount Esau?

⁹ And your mighty men shall be dismayed, O Teman,

so that every man from Mount Esau will be cut off by slaughter. [Compare Jeremiah 49:22]

Edom's Violence Against Jacob

¹⁰ Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob,

shame shall cover you,

and you shall be cut off forever.

¹¹ On the day that you stood aloof

on the day that strangers carried off his wealth
and foreigners entered his gates
and cast lots for Jerusalem,
you were like one of them.

¹² But do not gloat over the day of your brother

in the day of his misfortune;

do not rejoice over the people of Judah

in the day of their ruin;

do not boast^[e]

in the day of distress.

¹³ Do not enter the gate of my people

in the day of their calamity;

do not gloat over his disaster

in the day of his calamity;

do not loot his wealth

in the day of his calamity.

¹⁴ Do not stand at the crossroads

to cut off his fugitives;

do not hand over his survivors
in the day of distress.

The Day of the LORD Is Near

Israel's Weakness was His Strength

¹⁵ For the day of the LORD is near upon *all the nations*. [Psalm 9:17]

As you have done, it shall be done to you;
your deeds shall return on your own head.

¹⁶ For as you have drunk on my holy mountain, [a metaphor for Edom's wrath against Judah]
so *all the nations* shall drink continually; [a metaphor for God's wrath against Edom]

they shall drink and swallow, [Compare Jeremiah 25:15-33]

and shall be as though they had never been. [Compare Jeremiah 49:12; Revelation 14:8-10]

¹⁷ But in Mount Zion there shall be those who escape,
and it shall be holy,

and the house of Jacob shall possess their own possessions.

¹⁸ The house of Jacob shall be a fire,
and the house of Joseph a flame,
and the house of Esau stubble;

they shall burn them and consume them,
and there shall be no survivor for the house of Esau,
for the Lord has spoken.

The Kingdom of the LORD

¹⁹ Those of the Negeb shall possess Mount Esau,
and those of the Shephelah shall possess the land of the Philistines;

they shall possess the land of Ephraim and the land of Samaria,
and Benjamin shall possess Gilead.

²⁰ The exiles of this host of the people of Israel
shall possess the land of the Canaanites as far as Zarephath,

and the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad
shall possess the cities of the Negeb.

²¹ Saviors shall go up to Mount Zion

to rule Mount Esau,

and the kingdom shall be the Lord's.

Footnotes

- a. Obadiah 1:2 Or *Behold, I have made you small among the nations; you are utterly despised*
- b. Obadiah 1:3 Or *of Sela*
- c. Obadiah 1:7 Hebrew lacks *those who eat*
- d. Obadiah 1:7 Hebrew *he has*
- e. Obadiah 1:12 Hebrew *do not enlarge your mouth*

Highlights Code

The LORD

Promise of Judgment

Edom's Crimes

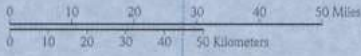
The Day of Jacob/The Day of the LORD

Calamity/Judgment on the Days

THE KINGDOMS OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH

1 KGS. 12

- City
- ★ Capital city
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak
- Israel
- Judah
- International roads
- Local roads



The Book of Obadiah

The Kingdom Shall Be the Lord's

The Book of Obadiah is God's word to encourage His discouraged and defeated people who are living in exile, to remind them that God will ultimately triumph over their enemies through retribution, restitution, and restoration.

Part One: Family Feud

A Tale of Two Brothers: Jacob and Esau

- The Brothers are Born: Genesis 25:19 – 28
- The Birthright is Sold: Genesis 25:29 – 34 (note especially verse 30)
- The Blessing is Obtained: Genesis 27:1 – 29
- The Battle is On: Genesis 27:41 – 45
- The Brothers Communicate: Genesis 32: 1 – 23
- The Brothers Reconcile: Genesis 33:1 – 17
- The Brothers Separate: Genesis 36:6 – 9

Historical Hostilities

- *Edom Refuses Passage to Israel:* Numbers 20:14 – 21
- *Moses' Charge to Israel Concerning Edom:* Deuteronomy 23:7 – 8
- *Edom Allied with Israel's Enemies:* 1 Samuel 14:47
- *The Curious Case of Doeg the Edomite:* 1 Samuel 21:7; 22:9 – 23
- *David Subdues the Edomites (Syria):* 2 Samuel 8:9 – 14
- *God uses Edom to Punish Solomon:* 1 Kings 11:14 – 22
- *Edom's Revolt Against Judah:* 2 Kings 8:16 – 24
- *Amaziah, King of Judah, Worships the Gods of Edom:* 2 Chronicles 25:11 – 20

God's Wrath Against Edom in the Major [Longer] Prophets

- Isaiah 11:12 – 14; Isaiah 34:1 – 10; Isaiah 63:1 – 6
- Jeremiah 9:25 – 26; Jeremiah 25:15 – 17, 21; Jeremiah 27:1 – 11
- **Jeremiah 49:7 – 22**
- Lamentations 4:21 – 22
- Ezekiel 25:12 – 14; Ezekiel 35:15

God's Wrath Against Edom in the Minor [Shorter] Prophets

- Joel 3:19
- Amos 1:11
- Malachi 1:4

Who Was Obadiah?

There are at least twelve men named Obadiah in the Old Testament

1 Kings 18:3 – 16; 1 Chronicles 3:21; 1 Chronicles 7:3; 1 Chronicles 8:38; 1 Chronicles 9:16; 1 Chronicles 12:9; 2 Chronicles 17:7; 3 Chronicles 34:12; Ezra 8:9; Nehemiah 10:5; Nehemiah 12:25; Obadiah 1:1

When Was This Prophecy Written?

From the Reformation Study Bible: "(Obadiah) has in view a military assault on Jerusalem in which the Edomites gleefully took part (Obadiah 11-14), but he does not provide information that clearly dates the catastrophe."

There are two major military assaults on Jerusalem:

845 BC: The Philistines and the Arabs during the reign of King Jehoram (2 Kings 8:20-22; 2 Chronicles 21:8-17)

586 BC: The Babylonian assault which leads to the fall of Jerusalem (Psalm 137; Ezekiel 35:1-15)

Yahweh's Indictment of Edom: vv. 3 – 16

Edom's Crimes Against Yahweh Stated: vv. 3 – 9

1. *Conceit: vv. 3, 4*
Edom's Punishment Promised: vv. 4 - 6
"I will bring you down" – v. 4
A Total Devastation of Edom: vv. 5 – 6
2. *Collusion: v. 7*
3. *Conspiracy: vv. 8 – 9*

Evidence of Edom's Crimes Against Yahweh Presented: vv. 10 – 14

► ***"The Day of Your Brother [Jacob]" v. 12 [compare Jeremiah 30:7]***

The Day of Destruction (v. 12)

The Day of Distress (v. 12, 14)

The Day of Calamity (v. 13)

1. Edom stood by and did nothing to defend Israel: v. 11
2. Edom participated in the atrocities committed by foreign enemies against Israel: v. 11
3. Edom gloated over the atrocities committed against Israel: v. 12
4. Edom spoiled the property of Israel: v. 13
5. Edom blocked the escape of those who survived the atrocities: v. 14
6. Edom captured those who escaped and gave them over to their enemies: v. 14

Edom's Punishment from Yahweh Pronounced: vv. 15, 16

► ***"The Day of the Lord" v. 15***

God's vindication of His people on all the nations who have abused them.

"For the day of the Lord is near upon all the nations.

*As you have done, it shall be done to you;
your deeds shall return on your own head."*

Yahweh's Vindication of Israel: vv. 17 – 21

"The Kingdom Shall be the Lord's"

- Saviors from Mount Zion bring judgment upon Mount Esau: v. 17, 21
- Esau reduced to stubble: v. 18 (compare v. 5)
- Israel has total victory over their surrounding enemies: vv. 19-20

The Book of Obadiah

The Kingdom Shall Be the Lord's

The Book of Obadiah is God's word to encourage His discouraged and defeated people who are living in exile, to remind them that God will ultimately triumph over their enemies through retribution, restitution, and restoration.

Part Two: You're Going Down

The Seer: v. 1a *The vision [burden, oracle] of Obadiah.*

The Sovereign: v. 1b *Thus says the Lord God concerning Edom:*

The phrase, "Thus says the Lord concerning Edom," does not apply only to the sentence that immediately follows (vv. 1c, 2), but to all 21 verses: the entire book has its authority in the sovereign word of the LORD GOD, Yahweh.

The Statesman: v. 1c

We [Israel, Judah, Jacob] have heard a report from the Lord [compare Jeremiah 49:14]

A messenger is sent among the nations

The Call to Arms: *"Rise up! Let us rise up against her [Edom] for battle"*

The Statement: vv. 2 – 9

1. Edom is Despised: v. 2 [compare Jeremiah 49:15]

"I have made you small among the nations"

"You are greatly despised"

But they didn't know it! [2 Thessalonians 2:11]

2. Edom is Deceived: vv. 3 – 7

a. By their pride: vv. 3 – 4 [compare Jeremiah 49:16-17]

In Jeremiah 49:22 the Lord is compared to an eagle flying to destroy Edom

b. By their invincibility: vv. 5 – 6 [compare Jeremiah 49:9-10]

c. By their allies: v. 7

3. Edom is Destroyed: vv. 8 – 9

a. Edom's wise counselors are destroyed: v. 8 [Jeremiah 49:7; Psalm 33:10-11; Proverbs 11:14; 21:30]

b. Edom's military strategists are dismayed: v. 9