



OBADIAH

THE PROPHECY

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OBADIAH ~ The PROPHECY

Verses One through Twenty-one

READ AND OBSERVE

Read through **Obadiah** and mark every reference to the LORD speaking, i.e. the mouth of the LORD, instruction of our God, vision of God, declares, etc. Highlight the word or phrase in yellow and then circle all that you have highlighted in red.

Read through **Obadiah** and mark every reference to the LORD by marking it with a red triangle.

Read through **Obadiah** and mark every reference to Zion or Jerusalem with a blue capital “Z”.

Read through **Obadiah** and mark every reference, including pronouns, to Israel with a blue Star of David. If the reference is to an Israeli survivor of the Day of the LORD, also put a red circle around it.

Read through **Obadiah** and mark every reference, including pronouns, to Edom or Esau with an orange box.

Read through **Obadiah** and mark every reference to time with a blue box. If the time phrase is referring to the last days or day, fill the box in with blue to differentiate it from a general time phrase.

Read through **Obadiah** and mark every contrast with a pink diagonal slash, i.e. “black/white”.

Read through **Obadiah** and divide the passage into the following segments. Mark and title these segments in your text using brackets in the margin.

1. Nations summoned to take vengeance on Edom
2. Because of violence against Jacob
3. Justice/Judgment to nations – Restoration to Israel

READ AND ANSWER

Obadiah 1-9

Who receives a vision?

From Whom is the vision?

Who is the vision concerning?

To whom does God send a report?

To whom does God send an envoy?

What is the message to the nations?

Who is in the envoy?

Who will the nations go against in battle?

Who will come against Edom in battle?

What will happen to Edom?

Who will make her small among the nations?

How is Edom seen?

What has deceived Edom?

POINT OF DEPTH

Edom was situated on a granite range fifteen to twenty miles long, running north to south from the southern end of Dead Sea to the Eleantic Gulf. Its mountainous cliffs were up to 2,000 feet in height and the range covered 2,000 square miles.

**The stronghold of Petra was a loft flat shaped rock – “Sela”. (II Kings 14:7)
It could only be approached through a deep narrow ravine.
Bozrah was its capital.**

Where did the nation of Edom dwell?

Why was Edom arrogant in her heart?

What did Edom believe in her heart?

What was God’s answer to Edom’s arrogance?

Though she thought no one could ever bring her down from her mountain fortress, of what did God inform her?

Who could and *would* bring her down?

Could she build high enough to be safe from God?

What is going to happen to Edom?

God compares thieves coming to Edom to rob her with what will actually happen to her. What would thieves do?

How much could thieves carry?

Could they carry even less at night?

God compares grape gatherers to what will happen to Edom. What would grape gatherers do?

Would grape gatherers be able to take every single last grape?

Was God able to destroy every last Edomite?

What does ransack mean?

Who would ransack Edom?

What would be found as they turned Edom upside down to search?

Would she have any allies that she could trust?

What would her allies counsel her to do?

What would her allies do to her themselves?

1.

2.

Who would set an ambush for her?

In whom is there no understanding?

What will God do on that Day?

- 1.
- 2.

POINT OF DEPTH

Edom was known for her wise men.

How certain is it that God will destroy Edom's wise men on That Day?

How certain is it that God will destroy understanding from the mountain of Esau?

When will Teman's mighty men be dismayed? (Teman was a main Edomite city, about five miles from its stronghold Sela.)

When is then?

What will be the result?

Obadiah 10-14

What would happen to Edom?

- 1.
- 2.

Why would she be covered with shame and cut off forever?

God describes the violence done to Edom's brother Jacob.

POINT OF CONNECTION

Esau and Jacob were brothers.
The Edomites were the descendants of Esau
and the Israelites were the descendants of Jacob.
Yet, the Edomites were a constant thorn in the side of the Israelites.

Numbers 20:14-21

*From Kadesh Moses then sent messengers to the king of Edom:
“Thus your brother Israel has said,
‘You know all the hardship that has befallen us;
that our fathers went down to Egypt, and we stayed in Egypt a long time,
and the Egyptians treated us and our fathers badly.
But when we cried out to the Lord,
He heard our voice and sent an angel and brought us out from Egypt;
now behold, we are at Kadesh, a town on the edge of your territory.
Please let us pass through your land.
We will not pass through field or through vineyard;
we will not even drink water from a well.
We will go along the king’s highway, not turning to the right or left,
until we pass through your territory.”*

*Edom, however, said to him,
“You shall not pass through us, or I will come out with the sword against you.”*

*Again, the sons of Israel said to him,
“We will go up by the highway,
and if I and my livestock do drink any of your water, then I will pay its price.
Let me only pass through on my feet, nothing else.”*

*But he said, “You shall not pass through.”
And Edom came out against him with a heavy force and with a strong hand.
Thus Edom refused to allow Israel to pass through his territory;
so Israel turned away from him.”*

Psalm 83:1-6

*A Song, a Psalm of Asaph.
O God, do not remain quiet;
Do not be silent and, O God, do not be still.
For behold, Your enemies make an uproar,
And those who hate You have exalted themselves.
They make shrewd plans against Your people,
And conspire together against Your treasured ones.
They have said, “Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation,*

***That the name of Israel be remembered no more.”
For they have conspired together with one mind;
Against You they make a covenant:
The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites;***

Psalm 137

***By the rivers of Babylon,
There we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion.
Upon the willows in the midst of it we hung our harps.
For there our captors demanded of us songs,
And our tormentors mirth, saying, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion.”
How can we sing the Lord’s song In a foreign land?
If I forget you, O Jerusalem, May my right hand forget her skill.
May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember you,
If I do not exalt Jerusalem above my chief joy.
Remember, O Lord, against the sons of Edom
The day of Jerusalem, Who said, “Raze it, raze it To its very foundation.”
O daughter of Babylon, you devastated one,
How blessed will be the one who repays you
With the recompense with which you have repaid us.
How blessed will be the one
who seizes and dashes your little ones against the rock.***

Lamentations 4:21-22,

***“Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom,
Who dwells in the land of Uz;
But the cup will come around to you as well,
You will become drunk and make yourself naked.
The punishment of your iniquity has been completed, O daughter of Zion;
He will exile you no longer.
But He will punish your iniquity, O daughter of Edom;
He will expose your sins!”***

Ezekiel 35:12-15

***Then you will know that I, the Lord, have heard all your revilings which you have
spoken against the mountains of Israel saying,
‘They are laid desolate; they are given to us for food.’***

***And you have spoken arrogantly against Me and have multiplied your words
against Me; I have heard it.***

Thus says the Lord God,

***“As all the earth rejoices, I will make you a desolation.
As you rejoiced over the inheritance of the house of Israel
because it was desolate, so I will do to you.
You will be a desolation, O Mount Seir, and all Edom, all of it.***

Then they will know that I am the Lord.”

Malachi 1:2-5

“I have loved you,” says the Lord. But you say, “How have You loved us?”

“Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” declares the Lord.

***“Yet I have loved Jacob; but I have hated Esau,
and I have made his mountains a desolation***

and appointed his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness.”

Though Edom says,

“We have been beaten down, but we will return and build up the ruins”;

thus says the Lord of hosts,

“They may build, but I will tear down;

and men will call them the wicked territory,

and the people toward whom the Lord is indignant forever.”

Your eyes will see this and you will say,

The Lord be magnified beyond the border of Israel!”

What does **verse 11** describe as happening to Israel?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

What does **verse 11** describe as Edom’s involvement?

- 1.
- 2.

Verses 10 and 11 talk about a past history of violence done to Jacob by Edom. **Verses 12-14** warn Edom against any future harm to Israel during her deep humiliation. In **verse 12** what is Edom told to not do?

- 1.
- 2.

3.

What is Edom told not to gloat over?

What is his brother's day called?

1.

2.

In **verse 13** what is Edom told to not do?

1.

2.

3.

What is the calamity of the sons of Judah called in **verse 13**?

1.

2.

3.

In **verse 14** what is Edom told to not do?

1.

2.

3.

What is the day of Jacob called in **verse 14**?

Obadiah 15-21

Jacob's day is called the day of his misfortune, the day of their destruction, distress (2x), and disaster (3x). When does this Day take place?

What draws near?

On whom does it draw near?

What will be done to Edom?

What will return on Edom's own head?

What had Edom done on God's holy mountain?

What will the nations do?

1.

2.

What will happen to the nations?

POINT OF CONNECTION

Jeremiah 49:12

For thus says the Lord,

"Behold, those who were not sentenced to drink the cup will certainly drink it, and are you the one who will be completely acquitted? You will not be acquitted, but you will certainly drink it."

Jeremiah 25:28

And it will be,

if they refuse to take the cup from your hand to drink,

***then you will say to them,
“Thus says the Lord of hosts: “You shall surely drink!””***

What will there be on Mount Zion?

What will Mount Zion be?

What will the house of Jacob do?

What will the house of Jacob be?

What will the house of Joseph be?

In contrast, what will the house of Esau be?

What will the house of Jacob do to the house of Esau?

1.

2.

What will be the result?

Why?

What will those of the Negev (South country of Israel) possess?

When?

What will those of the Shephelah (foothills) possess?

1.

2.

3.

What will Benjamin possess?

What will the exiles of this host of the sons of Israel, who are among the Canaanites as far as Zarephath possess?

What will the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad possess?

POINT OF DEPTH

Malachi 1:2-5

***“I have loved you,” says the Lord.
But you say, “How have You loved us?”
“Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” declares the Lord.
“Yet I have loved Jacob; but I have hated Esau,
and I have made his mountains a desolation
and appointed his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness.”***

***Though Edom says,
“We have been beaten down, but we will return and build up the ruins”;
thus says the Lord of hosts,
“They may build, but I will tear down;
and men will call them the wicked territory,
and the people toward whom the Lord is indignant forever.”
Your eyes will see this and you will say,
“The Lord be magnified beyond the border of Israel!””***

Expanded borders for Israel! Won’t that be a welcome time!

**The mountain of Esau is south.
The Philistine plain is west.
The territory of Ephraim and Samaria are those of the Northern Kingdom.
Gilead was in Transjordan, southeast of the Sea of Galilee.
Zarephath was located in Phoenicia (far northeast).
Sepharad is unknown, but possibly in Asia Minor.**

What will the deliverers ascend?

Who are the deliverers?

Why will they ascend Mount Zion?

And the finale?

READ AND REASON

**Judgment and the Day of the LORD will come before the Kingdom is established.
Humiliation will come before restoration.
Restoration will come during the Day of the LORD.
The LORD will rule the world from Mount Zion!**

**What comfort Obadiah's message is for God's people!
Even when God judges His people, He will not forsake them.**

**God is faithful.
He is a covenant keeping God.
God is sovereign over all the nations.**

**He will dispense judgment to the unbelieving nations.
He will dispense grace to Israel and any believing nations.**

**The future of godless nations is judgment!
The future of the righteous is restoration and blessing!**