

The Minor Prophets

Obadiah – Servant of Yahweh

Please pray and ask the Lord for understanding of His Word before you begin.

Read Obadiah

The ancient kingdom of Edom was in modern-day Jordan. The city of Petra carved from the cliffs and rocks was one of their dwelling places. The Edomites were descended from Esau, who sold his birthright and lost his father Issacs' blessing as the first-born son to his twin brother Jacob, setting in motion an enmity between the two groups, Israel and Edom, that continued down through the centuries. Several times Edom refused to help Israel and even gloated over their troubles, as a result God judged the nation. We don't have any information about Obadiah, however some commentators date the book around 586 BC, when the Babylonians took Judah into captivity. This is the only prophetic book that is addressed to a group of people other than Israel.

Judgment is coming

1. Looking at verses 1 and 2 we see that God is getting ready to bring judgment against Edom.
 - a. What is the result God is looking for when someone falls under judgment as the consequence of sin? (2 Peter 3:9)
 - b. What is the lesson here for us?

2. Read verse 3 along with Jeremiah 17:9, 10; Proverbs 8:13 1 John 2:15-17; and 1 Peter 5:5-7.
 - a. What is God saying to us about our heart?
 - b. Why does God hate pride?
 - b. What is the remedy for a prideful heart?

3. As you continue reading verses 3-9 make a list of the physical defenses Edom was trusting in.
 - a. What does God say He is going to do with these man-made defenses?
 - b. Are there things or people that you are trusting in for your safety and well being rather than trusting God?

4. The people of Edom were known for their wisdom. Their country was located on the King's Highway so that travelers and traders from the East, Europe and North Africa would have brought knowledge and wealth to them.

a. What does God say about earthly wisdom? (Jeremiah 8:9)

b. What is true wisdom? (Proverbs 1:7)

They were not their brother's keeper!

5. In verses 10-14 the reasons Edom is being judged are given. Make a list of the reasons you find.

6. Look at verse 15 and state the spiritual principle that is found there.

Israel's final triumph

7. In verses 17-21 three promises are given to Israel. What are they? (Joel 2:32; Psalm 83:6-15 and Daniel 7:27 will help you.)

8. Was there a verse that stood out to you as you were reading? Something that intrigued you or spoke to your heart? Consider memorizing it and please share it with us (whether you memorize it or not. 😊)

“Thus says the Lord: ‘Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight,’ says the Lord.” Jeremiah 9:23, 24