

# Obadiah

October 10, 2021

*Outline for e-bulletin and paper handout*

## **It started with Jacob and Esau. Genesis 25:28-29**

<sup>28</sup> Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

<sup>29</sup> Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished. <sup>30</sup> He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.<sup>Ⓜ</sup>)

## **Hostility, 400 years later. Numbers 20:18**

<sup>18</sup> But Edom answered:

"You may not pass through here; if you try, we will march out and attack you with the sword."

## **Edom takes advantage when Judah falls to Babylon.**

### **Ps 137:7**

Remember, LORD, what the Edomites did  
on the day Jerusalem fell.

"Tear it down," they cried,  
"tear it down to its foundations!"

### **Amos 1:11-12**

"For three sins of Edom,  
even for four, I will not relent.  
Because he pursued his brother with a sword  
and slaughtered the women of the land,  
because his anger raged continually  
and his fury flamed unchecked,  
<sup>12</sup> I will send fire ...

**Now the Lord will judge. Obadiah's vision:**

<sup>1</sup> The vision of Obadiah.

This is what the Sovereign LORD says about Edom—

We have heard a message from the LORD:

An envoy was sent to the nations to say,  
"Rise, let us go against her for battle"—

<sup>2</sup> "See, I will make you small among the nations;  
you will be utterly despised.

<sup>3</sup> The pride of your heart has deceived you,  
you who live in the clefts of the rocks<sup>[a]</sup>  
and make your home on the heights,  
you who say to yourself,

'Who can bring me down to the ground?'

<sup>4</sup> Though you soar like the eagle  
and make your nest among the stars,  
from there I will bring you down,"  
declares the LORD.

**The punishment will be harsh.**

<sup>5</sup> "If thieves came to you,  
if robbers in the night—  
oh, what a disaster awaits you!—  
would they not steal only as much as they wanted?

If grape pickers came to you,  
would they not leave a few grapes?

<sup>6</sup> But how Esau will be ransacked,  
his hidden treasures pillaged!

<sup>7</sup> All your allies will force you to the border;  
your friends will deceive and overpower you;  
those who eat your bread will set a trap for you,<sup>[b]</sup>  
but you will not detect it.

<sup>8</sup> "In that day," declares the LORD,  
"will I not destroy the wise men of Edom,  
those of understanding in the mountains of Esau?"

<sup>9</sup> Your warriors, Teman, will be terrified,  
and everyone in Esau's mountains  
will be cut down in the slaughter.

**Justice for God's people. Punishment for their enemy.**

<sup>10</sup> Because of the violence against your brother Jacob,  
you will be covered with shame;  
you will be destroyed forever.

<sup>11</sup> On the day you stood aloof  
while strangers carried off his wealth  
and foreigners entered his gates  
and cast lots for Jerusalem,  
you were like one of them.

<sup>12</sup> You should not gloat over your brother  
in the day of his misfortune,  
nor rejoice over the people of Judah  
in the day of their destruction,  
nor boast so much  
in the day of their trouble.

<sup>13</sup> You should not march through the gates of my people  
in the day of their disaster,  
nor gloat over them in their calamity  
in the day of their disaster,  
nor seize their wealth  
in the day of their disaster.

<sup>14</sup> You should not wait at the crossroads  
to cut down their fugitives,  
nor hand over their survivors  
in the day of their trouble.

**A day of the Lord for all nations.**

<sup>15</sup> "The day of the LORD is near  
for all nations.  
As you have done, it will be done to you;  
your deeds will return upon your own head.

<sup>16</sup> Just as you drank on my holy hill,  
so all the nations will drink continually;  
they will drink and drink  
and be as if they had never been.

**Restoration of God's people and establishment of God's kingdom.**

<sup>17</sup> But on Mount Zion will be deliverance;  
it will be holy,  
and Jacob will possess his inheritance.

<sup>18</sup> Jacob will be a fire  
and Joseph a flame;  
Esau will be stubble,  
and they will set him on fire and destroy him.  
There will be no survivors  
from Esau."

The LORD has spoken.

<sup>19</sup> People from the Negev will occupy  
the mountains of Esau,  
and people from the foothills will possess  
the land of the Philistines.

They will occupy the fields of Ephraim and Samaria,  
and Benjamin will possess Gilead.

<sup>20</sup> This company of Israelite exiles who are in Canaan  
will possess the land as far as Zarephath;  
the exiles from Jerusalem who are in Sepharad  
will possess the towns of the Negev.

<sup>21</sup> Deliverers will go up on<sup>[a]</sup> Mount Zion  
to govern the mountains of Esau.  
And the kingdom will be the LORD's.

**God's kingdom to be established not just over Edom, but all nations, and in our hearts.**

**Amos 9:11-12**

"In that day

"I will restore David's fallen shelter—  
I will repair its broken walls  
and restore its ruins—  
and will rebuild it as it used to be,

<sup>12</sup> so that they may possess the remnant of Edom  
and all the nations that bear my name,<sup>[a]</sup>"  
declares the LORD, who will do these things.

**James quotes Amos to argue that the gospel applies not only to the Jews, but also to the Gentiles. Acts 15:16-17**

“After this I will return  
and rebuild David’s fallen tent.  
Its ruins I will rebuild,  
and I will restore it,  
<sup>17</sup> that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord,  
even all the Gentiles who bear my name,  
says the Lord, who does these things’<sup>(b)</sup>—

**God will also establish his kingdom in our hearts. Romans 7:22-24**

<sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am!

**Choose God’s side. Romans 8:31**

If God is for us, who can be against us?