

THE BOOK OF OBADIAH: THE DOOM OF EDOM

A third prophet, Obadiah, whose date is uncertain, also addressed his prophecy to a heathen nation. He seems certainly to have been a native of Judah, and may have lived as early as the reign of Amaziah or as late as the capture of Jerusalem. However, if the Minor Prophets are arranged in Chronological order, as they seem generally to be, then he would have lived at about the time of Ahaz. His prophecy is studied here because of its similarity to those of Jonah and Nahum:

A. A Prediction of Edom's Punishment: Read Obadiah 1-9

1. What was God planning to do to Edom? Obadiah 1b

2. What position would Edom then have among the nations? Obadiah 2

3. Who were the Edomites? See Genesis 36:1, 43b

4. Where did they live? Obadiah 3b (From an encyclopedia or Bible handbook find out all you can about the home and habits of the Edomites.)

5. What attitude did this cause them to have in their hearts? Obadiah 3a

6. Therefore, what did they say to themselves? Obadiah 3c

7. By contract, what did God say of them? Obadiah 4

8. If only thieves and robbers came up against Edom, how much would they take? Obadiah 5

9. But how much would the Lord destroy? Obadiah 9b, 10b

10. Who would be the ones to bring this to pass? Obadiah 7

11. What kinds of men for which Edom had been noted would now be destroyed? Obadiah 8, 9

B. The reason for Edom's Punishment: Read Obadiah 10-16

1. For what reason would all this come upon Edom? Obadiah 10a

2. What had strangers and foreigners done to Jerusalem before this time? Obadiah 11b, c

2 Bible Discoveries: Literature of the OT Series by Sarah Overstreet Midyett
Book 3 Kingdom of Israel: Divided and Restored

3. What had Edom done then? Obadiah 11a, d

4. What specific things had Edom done? Obadiah 12, 13, 14 (See II Chronicles 28:17 for an account of Edom's doing this. Also, history tells us that Edom did this at the time of Judah's capture.)

5. What did God promise would happen to Edom because of this? Obadiah 15-16

C. The Contrast With Israel's Future: Read Obadiah 17-21

1. By contrast, what would be the conditions in Mount Zion (Jerusalem)? Obadiah 17a

2. What would happen to the possessions of Edom? Obadiah 17b

3. What would the people of God's nation do to Edom (or Esau)? Obadiah 18

4. Who would come to Mount Zion, and what would they do? Obadiah 21a

5. Who would finally rule there? Obadiah 21b

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. How have I treated my brothers and sisters (and their descendants, if any)?

2. What would be God's message to me in this regard? Remember Matthew 7:2b, Galatians 6:7.
