

Title: Bible Study Guide to Obadiah

Description: Pastor's Teaching manuscript

I. Introduction

A. Tonight we are here to study the book of Obadiah

1. Shortest book in the Old Testament, consisting of only one chapter and 21 verses.
2. Obadiah is considered one of "*The Minor Prophets*"
 - a) A collection of twelve books that make up the last part of the Old Testament
 - b) Augustine is credited with being the first to classify them in this way
 - c) The distinction pertains only to the length of the books
 - (1) The "major prophets" include the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
 - (2) The "minor prophets" are those twelve books from Hosea to Malachi

B. Reading: Obadiah: 1:1-21

C. When ever you go to study anything in the Bible, it is important to understand the context.

1. Context is KING
2. In order to understand the context and all that was going on, it is helpful to try and determine the following:
 - a) Author – who wrote it? What were they going through? What was in their mind?
 - b) Date – when did they write it? Helps shed light on any historical circumstances, etc.
 - c) Place: Where did they write it from?
 - d) Background: What was going on?
 - e) Occasion: What was the purpose for writing it, in light of the background events
 - f) Audience: To whom was it written?

II. Introduction to the Book of Obadiah

A. **Author:** Obadiah

1. **Obad** *The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom — We have heard a report from the LORD, And an envoy has been sent among the nations saying, "Arise and let us go against her for battle" — NASB*
2. His name means "Servant of the Lord" ("servant of Yahweh")
 - a) Obadiah was a very common name in the OT
 - b) At least 12 people in the Bible with this name
 - c) One Jewish tradition identifies him as the one who was Ahab's steward
 - (1) Who hid 100 prophets from Jezebel, Ahab's wife - 1 Kin 18:3-4
 - (2) Who feared the Lord from his youth - 1 Kin 18:12
 - (3) The timing does not fit
 - d) We really don't know who Obadiah was
 - (1) We know very little about him – nothing else in Scripture
 - (2) In fact, we do not even know if this was his real name - or he was just referring to himself as "the servant of the Lord"
 - (3) We know very little about his background, tribe, family, profession, etc.
 - (4) He is just "servant of the Lord"
3. What a lesson for us right off the bat
 - a) It is not about us
 - b) It is not about the messenger, but about the message

- c) We are just “bondslaves”
- d) John the Baptist
 - (1) “Are you the Christ”
 - (2) 'There is One coming after me whose latchets of His shoe I am not worthy to loose. I baptize you with water but He will baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire'. Listen to what he said, 'I must decrease and He must increase'.
 - (3) You see that's the voice of the prophet of God.
 - (4) Any prophet of God that talks about 'me, my and mine and everything that I have done and all the achievements that I have had in my life' is not the true messenger of God, because he is taken up more with the messenger than the message.
- e) The heart of a true servant of the Lord is seen in not making it about you.

B. Date

1. Since the Bible gives no facts about either Obadiah or his life, there is some debate about when he wrote it.
2. Normally it is important to know when something was written, since it helps us understand context as we know what is going on and why God led him to write it.
3. The internal clues make it clear that it was written shortly after an invasion of Jerusalem
 - a) **Obad 11** *"On the day that you stood aloof, On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, And foreigners entered his gate And cast lots for Jerusalem — You too were as one of them. NASB*
 - b) We read about Jerusalem being invaded
 - c) Normally that makes us immediately think of the Babylonian invasion
4. That is one of the two dates scholars suggest for the date of writing
 - a) 586 BC: Destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians where Jerusalem was destroyed and the people carried into captivity
 - b) 845 B.C.: The days of Jehoram (848-844 B.C.), when Philistines and Arabians attacked the city - 2 Chr 21:8-10,16-17
 - c) It is also possible it was written prophetically before the fall of Jerusalem (12-14) as the prophet sees the fall and then speaks about what Edom will do
5. I am not going to go into the reasons for each – scholars go either way
 - a) I don't think it makes too much difference because scholars suggest two dates for when the book was written and in either case involve an attack or invasion on Jerusalem
 - b) I tend to take the view that it was written at the destruction of Jerusalem
 - c) My comments will reflect that

C. Place Of Writing

1. Nothing of known of where it was written from
2. Obadiah could be in Jerusalem
3. Or he could be somewhere in captivity
4. The text seems to indicate he saw or experienced the destruction going on
5. Sometimes events stir us to seek God and get a Word from Him

D. Background

1. By reading the book, we can get the picture a bit about what is taking place
2. In one part of the picture, we have the Jews being killed and slaughtered and exiled by an invading army
 - a) Jerusalem has been invaded. The walls have been broken down. The city is ablaze. Soldiers are pillaging and plundering the city.
 - b) Some of the citizens are being killed
 - c) Some are being taken captive (fugitives being taken into captivity)

- d) **Obad 14** *"And do not stand at the fork of the road To cut down their fugitives; And do not imprison their survivors In the day of their distress. NASB*
3. The other part of the picture is about a people called "the Edomites" standing and watching what is happening
- a) **Obad 1** *The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom — ... NASB*
 - b) **Obad 11** *"On the day that you stood aloof, On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, And foreigners entered his gate And cast lots for Jerusalem — You too were as one of them. NASB*
 - c) **Obad 12** *"Do not gloat over your brother's day, The day of his misfortune. And do not rejoice over the sons of Judah In the day of their destruction; Yes, do not boast In the day of their distress. NASB*
 - d) **Obad 14** *"And do not stand at the fork of the road To cut down their fugitives; And do not imprison their survivors In the day of their distress. NASB*
4. Get the picture?
- a) The Jews and Jerusalem are being destroyed by an invading army while Edom stands and watches
 - b) They gloat over what is happening
 - c) They are killing the fugitives and not letting them find refuge in their country.
5. The picture gets even worse than this if we understand who the "Edomites" are?
- a) The Bible makes it clear that the Edomites were the descendents of Esau
 - (1) **Genesis 36:8** *So Esau lived in the hill country of Seir; Esau is Edom. NASB*
 - (2) **Gen 36:19** *These are the sons of Esau (that is, Edom), and these are their chiefs. NASB*
 - b) Meanings
 - (1) Esau (unknown, though some think it means 'hairy')
 - (2) Edom = red
 - (a) **Genesis 25:25** *Now the first came forth red, all over like a hairy garment; and they named him Esau. NASB*
 - (b) Description of Esau's physical appearance
 - (c) Interestingly Jacob was named according to his character
 - c) The people of Edom descended from Esau, Jacob's twin brother
 - (1) There was sibling rivalry between Edom and Israel, found first in Esau and Jacob
 - (a) The twins struggled in their mother's womb - Gen 25:22-26
 - (b) Esau sold his birthright to Jacob - Gen 25:27-34
 - (c) Jacob stole Esau's blessing as the firstborn - Gen 27
 - (2) While Jacob and Esau eventually reconciled (Gen 32-33), their descendants were often at odds with one another
 - d) Edom is also known in the Bible as Seir, Hor and Esau
 - e) Territory
 - (1) Bordered Judah to the east and south
 - (2) Extended southward from the border of Moab to the Gulf of Aqaba
 - (3) On the eastern side Edom was bordered by desert and was ~20-30 miles wide and about ~100 miles long.
 - f) Importance of Edom (James Boice)
 - (1) Situated along great trade routes between Syria and Egypt
 - (a) Trade brought business and wealth

(b) Got wealthy from tolls extracted from many caravans

(2) Edom's natural strength and security

(a) The central area is characterized by red sandstone cliffs that rise to more than 5,000 ft above sea level.

(b) They made their homes in the cliffs

(c) Made them feel relatively secure

g) The point is that it was their brothers who were rejoicing in their downfall and watching them be destroyed.

E. Overview of Edomites in Scripture (taken for the most part from Torrey's Textbook of the Bible)
(from Torrey's New Topical Textbook, Electronic Database Copyright (c)1999 by Biblesoft)

1. Descended from Esau

Genesis 36:9 *These then are the records of the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in the hill country of Seir.* NASB

2. Were called brethren of Israel.

a) **Numbers 20:14** *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; NASB*

3. Historical dealings with Israel

a) In the Exodus, Edom refused Israel passage through their land

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; 15 that our fathers went down to Egypt, and we stayed in Egypt a long time, and the Egyptians treated us and our fathers badly. 16 '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. 17 'Please let us pass through your land. We shall not pass through field or through vineyard; we shall not even drink water from a well. We shall go along the king's highway, not turning to the right or left, until we pass through your territory.' " 18 Edom, however, said to him, "You shall not pass through us, lest I come out with the sword against you." 19 Again, the sons of Israel said to him, "We shall 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." 20 But he said, "You shall not pass through." And Edom came out against him with a heavy force, and with a strong hand. 21 Thus Edom refused to allow Israel to pass through his territory; so Israel turned away from him.* NASB

b) Implacable enemies of Israel

(1) **Ezekiel 35:5** *"Because you have had everlasting enmity and have delivered the sons of Israel to the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, at the time of the punishment of the end, NASB*

c) Israel forbidden to hate

(1) **Deuteronomy 23:7** *"You shall not detest an Edomite, for he is your brother; you shall not detest an Egyptian, because you were an alien in his land. NASB*

d) Israel forbidden to spoil

(1) **Deuteronomy 2:4** *and command the people, saying, "You will pass through the territory of your brothers the sons of Esau who live in Seir; and they will be afraid of you. So be very careful; NASB*

(2) **Deuteronomy 2:6** *You shall buy food from them with money so that you may eat, and you shall also purchase water from them with money so that you may drink. NASB*

(3) **2 Chronicles 20:10** *"And now behold, the sons of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom Thou didst not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt (they turned aside from them and*

did not destroy them), NASB

- e) Might be received into the congregation in third generation
 - (1) **Deuteronomy 23:8** *The sons of the third generation who are born to them may enter the assembly of the LORD.* NASB
- f) Refused Israel a passage
 - (1) **Numbers 20:21** *Thus Edom refused to allow Israel to pass through his territory; so Israel turned away from him.* NASB
 - (2) **Judges 11:17** *then Israel sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, "Please let us pass through your land," but the king of Edom would not listen. And they also sent to the king of Moab, but he would not consent. So Israel remained at Kadesh.* NASB
- g) Saul made war against
 - (1) **1 Samuel 14:47** *Now when Saul had taken the kingdom over Israel, he fought against all his enemies on every side, against Moab, the sons of Ammon, Edom, the kings of Zobah, and the Philistines; and wherever he turned, he inflicted punishment.* NASB
- h) David subdued, &c
 - (1) **2 Samuel 8:14** *And he put garrisons in Edom. In all Edom he put garrisons, and all the Edomites became servants to David. And the LORD helped David wherever he went.* NASB
 - (2) **1 Chronicles 18:11** *King David also dedicated these to the LORD with the silver and the gold which he had carried away from all the nations: from Edom, Moab, the sons of Ammon, the Philistines, and from Amalek.* NASB
 - (3) **1 Chronicles 18:13** *Then he put garrisons in Edom, and all the Edomites became servants to David. And the LORD helped David wherever he went.* NASB
- i) Slaughter of, by Joab and Abishai
 - (1) **1 Kings 11:16** *(for Joab and all Israel stayed there six months, until he had cut off every male in Edom),* NASB
 - (2) **1 Chronicles 18:12** *Moreover Abishai the son of Zeruiah defeated 18,000 Edomites in the Valley of Salt.* NASB
- j) Took refuge in Egypt
 - (1) **1 Kings 11:17-19** *that Hadad fled to Egypt, he and certain Edomites of his father's servants with him, while Hadad was a young boy. 18 And they arose from Midian and came to Paran; and they took men with them from Paran and came to Egypt, to Pharaoh king of Egypt, who gave him a house and assigned him food and gave him land. 19 Now Hadad found great favor before Pharaoh, so that he gave him in marriage the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen.* NASB
- k) Returned after David's death
 - (1) **1 Kings 11:21-22** *But when Hadad heard in Egypt that David slept with his fathers, and that Joab the commander of the army was dead, Hadad said to Pharaoh, "Send me away, that I may go to my own country." 22 Then Pharaoh said to him, "But what have you lacked with me, that behold, you are seeking to go to your own country?" And he answered, "Nothing; nevertheless you must surely let me go."* NASB
- l) Were stirred up against Solomon
 - (1) **1 Kings 11:14** *Then the LORD raised up an adversary to Solomon, Hadad the Edomite; he was of the royal line in Edom.* NASB
- m) Confederated with enemies of Israel against Jehoshaphat

- (1) **2 Chronicles 20:10** *"And now behold, the sons of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom Thou didst not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt (they turned aside from them and did not destroy them), NASB*
- (2) **Psalms 83:4-6** *They have said, "Come, and let us wipe them out as a nation, That the name of Israel be remembered no more." 5 For they have conspired together with one mind; Against Thee do they make a covenant: 6 The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab, and the Hagrites; NASB*
- n) Miraculous overthrow of
 - (1) **2 Chronicles 20:22** *And when they began singing and praising, the LORD set ambushes against the sons of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; so they were routed. NASB*
- o) Revolted from Joram, king of Judah
 - (1) **2 Kings 8:20-22** *In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves. 21 Then Joram crossed over to Zair, and all his chariots with him. And it came about that he arose by night and struck the Edomites who had surrounded him and the captains of the chariots; but his army fled to their tents. 22 So Edom revolted against Judah to this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time. NASB*
 - (2) **2 Chronicles 21:8-10** *In his days Edom revolted against the rule of Judah, and set up a king over themselves. 9 Then Jehoram crossed over with his commanders and all his chariots with him. And it came about that he arose by night and struck down the Edomites who were surrounding him and the commanders of the chariots. 10 So Edom revolted against Judah to this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time against his rule, because he had forsaken the LORD God of his fathers. NASB*
- p) Re-conquered by Amaziah
 - (1) **2 Kings 14:7** *He killed of Edom in the Valley of Salt 10,000 and took Sela by war, and named it Joktheel to this day. NASB*
 - (2) **2 Kings 14:10** *You have indeed defeated Edom, and your heart has become proud. Enjoy your glory and stay at home; for why should you provoke trouble so that you, even you, should fall, and Judah with you?" NASB*
 - (3) **2 Chronicles 25:11-12** *Now Amaziah strengthened himself, and led his people forth, and went to the Valley of Salt, and struck down 10,000 of the sons of Seir. 12 The sons of Judah also captured 10,000 alive and brought them to the top of the cliff, and threw them down from the top of the cliff so that they were all dashed to pieces. NASB*
 - (4) **2 Chronicles 25:14** *Now it came about after Amaziah came from slaughtering the Edomites that he brought the gods of the sons of Seir, set them up as his gods, bowed down before them, and burned incense to them. NASB*
 - (5) **2 Chronicles 25:15** *Then the anger of the LORD burned against Amaziah, and He sent him a prophet who said to him, "Why have you sought the gods of the people who have not delivered their own people from your hand?" NASB*
- q) The Jews ensnared by the idols of, and punished
 - (1) **2 Chronicles 25:20** *But Amaziah would not listen, for it was from God, that He might deliver them into the hand of Joash because they had sought the gods of Edom. NASB*
- r) Rebelled against Ahaz
 - (1) **2 Chronicles 28:17** *For again the Edomites had come and attacked Judah, and carried away captives. NASB*
- s) Aided Babylon against Judah
 - (1) **Psalms 137:7** *Remember, O LORD, against the sons of Edom The day of Jerusalem, Who said, "Raze it, raze it, To its very foundation." NASB*
 - (2) **Obad 11** *"On the day that you stood aloof, On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, And foreigners entered his gate And cast lots for Jerusalem — You too were as one of them. NASB*

4. Character

a) Wise.

- (1) **Jeremiah 49:7** *Concerning Edom. Thus says the LORD of hosts, "Is there no longer any wisdom in Teman? Has good counsel been lost to the prudent? Has their wisdom decayed?" NASB*

b) Proud and self-confident.

- (1) **Jeremiah 49:16** *"As for the terror of you, The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock, Who occupy the height of the hill. Though you make your nest as high as an eagle's, I will bring you down from there," declares the LORD. NASB*
- (2) **Obad 3** *"The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, You who live in the clefts of the rock, In the loftiness of your dwelling place, Who say in your heart, 'Who will bring me down to earth?' NASB*

c) Strong and cruel.

- (1) **Jeremiah 49:19** *"Behold, one will come up like a lion from the thickets of the Jordan against a perennially watered pasture; for in an instant I shall make him run away from it, and whoever is chosen I shall appoint over it. For who is like Me, and who will summon Me into court? And who then is the shepherd who can stand against Me?" NASB*

d) Vindictive.

- (1) **Ezekiel 25:12** *'Thus says the Lord GOD, "Because Edom has acted against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and has incurred grievous guilt, and avenged themselves upon them," NASB*

e) Idolatrous.

- (1) **2 Chronicles 25:14** *Now it came about after Amaziah came from slaughtering the Edomites that he brought the gods of the sons of Seir, set them up as his gods, bowed down before them, and burned incense to them. NASB*
- (2) **2 Chronicles 25:20** *But Amaziah would not listen, for it was from God, that He might deliver them into the hand of Joash because they had sought the gods of Edom. NASB*

f) Superstitious.

- (1) **Jeremiah 27:3** *and send word to the king of Edom, to the king of Moab, to the king of the sons of Ammon, to the king of Tyre, and to the king of Sidon by the messengers who come to Jerusalem to Zedekiah king of Judah. NASB*
- (2) **Jeremiah 27:9** *"But as for you, do not listen to your prophets, your diviners, your dreamers, your soothsayers, or your sorcerers, who speak to you, saying, 'You shall not serve the king of Babylon.' NASB*

5. Remarkable persons of

- a) **1 Samuel 22:18** *Then the king said to Doeg, "You turn around and attack the priests." And Doeg the Edomite turned around and attacked the priests, and he killed that day eighty-five men who wore the linen ephod. NASB*
- b) **1 Kings 11:14** *Then the LORD raised up an adversary to Solomon, Hadad the Edomite; he was of the royal line in Edom. NASB*
- c) **1 Kings 11:19** *Now Hadad found great favor before Pharaoh, so that he gave him in marriage the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the queen. NASB*
- d) **Job 2:11** *Now when Job's three friends heard of all this adversity that had come upon him, they came each one from his own place, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite; and they made an appointment together to come to sympathize with him and comfort him. NASB*

6. Country where they dwelt

a) Carried on extensive commerce

- (1) **Ezekiel 27:20** *"Dedan traded with you in saddlecloths for riding. NASB*

b) Specially given to them.

- (1) **Deuteronomy 2:5** *do not provoke them, for I will not give you any of their land, even as little as a footstep because I have given Mount Seir to Esau as a possession. NASB*

c) Dwelt in Mount Seir

- (1) **Genesis 32:3** *Then Jacob sent messengers before him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom. NASB*
 (2) **Deuteronomy 2:4-5** *and command the people, saying, "You will pass through the territory of your brothers the sons of Esau who live in Seir; and they will be afraid of you. So be very careful; 5 do not provoke them, for I will not give you any of their land, even as little as a footstep because I have given Mount Seir to Esau as a possession. NASB*

d) Fertile and rich.

- (1) **Genesis 27:39** *Then Isaac his father answered and said to him, "Behold, away from the fertility of the earth shall be your dwelling, And away from the dew of heaven from above. NASB*

e) Mountainous and rocky.

- (1) **Jeremiah 49:16** *"As for the terror of you, The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock, Who occupy the height of the hill. Though you make your nest as high as an eagle's, I will bring you down from there," declares the LORD. NASB*
 (2) **Malachi 1:3** *but I have hated Esau, and I have made his mountains a desolation, and appointed his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness. " NASB*

f) Traversed by roads.

- (1) **Numbers 20:17** *'Please let us pass through your land. We shall not pass through field or through vineyard; we shall not even drink water from a well. We shall go along the king's highway, not turning to the right or left, until we pass through your territory.' " NASB*

g) Well fortified.

- (1) **Psalms 60:9** *Who will bring me into the besieged city? Who will lead me to Edom? NASB*

h) Called by many names

(1) Called Mount Seir.

- (a) **Ezekiel 35:2** *"Son of man, set your face against Mount Seir, and prophesy against it, NASB*

(2) Called Mount of Esau.

- (a) **Obad 21** *The deliverers will ascend Mount Zion To judge the mountain of Esau, And the kingdom will be the Lord's. NASB*

(3) Called Dumah.

(4) Called Edom.

- (a) **Isaiah 21:11** *The oracle concerning Edom. One keeps calling to me from Seir, "Watchman, how far gone is the night? Watchman, how far gone is the night?" NASB*
 (b) **Isaiah 34:6** *The sword of the LORD is filled with blood, It is sated with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats, With the fat of the kidneys of rams. For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah, And a great slaughter in the land of Edom. NASB*

(5) Called Idumea.

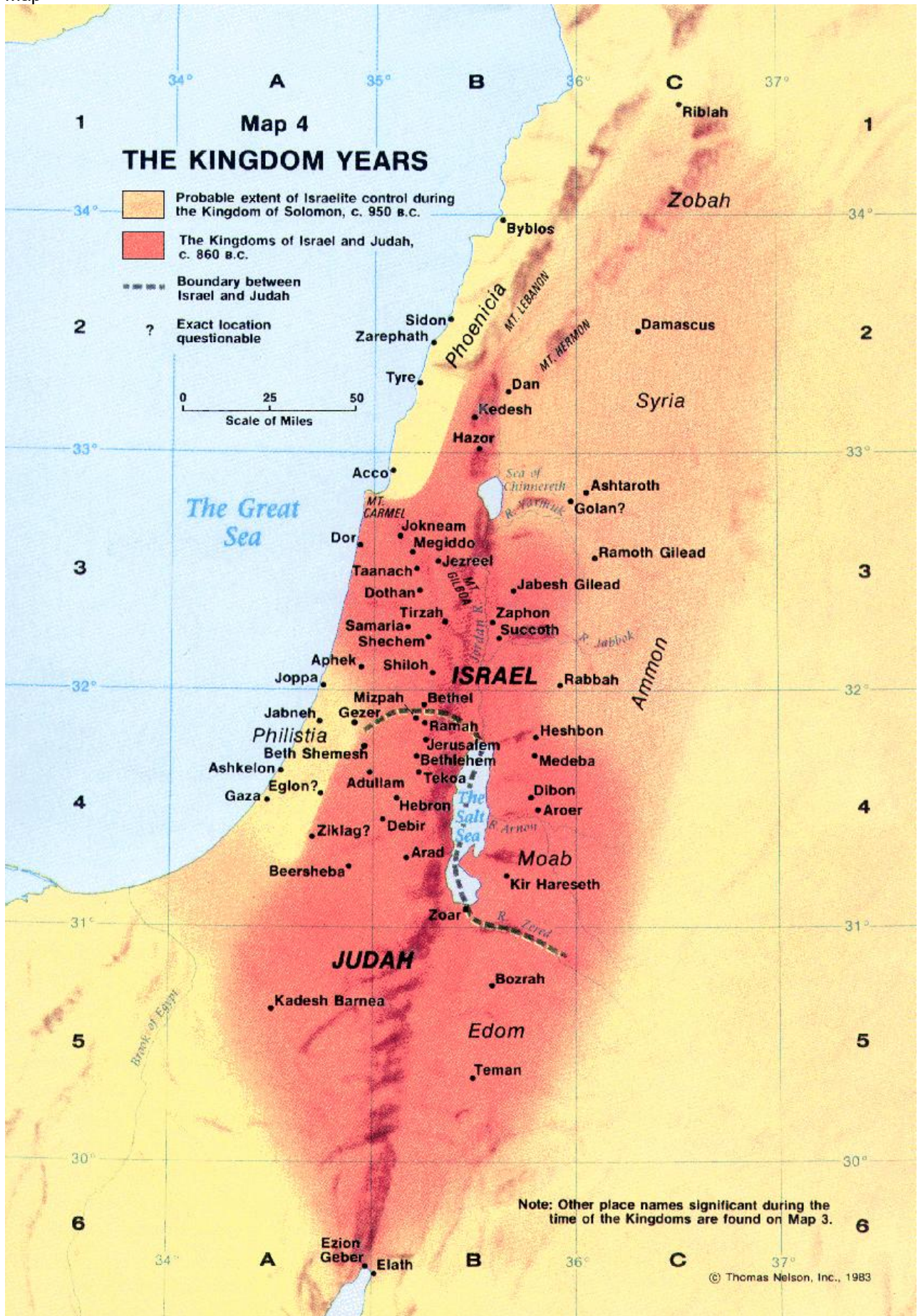
(a) **Mark 3:8** *and from Jerusalem, and from Idumea, and beyond the Jordan, and the vicinity of Tyre and Sidon, a great multitude heard of all that He was doing and came to Him. NASB*

i) Cities of

- (1) **Genesis 36:32** *Bela the son of Beor reigned in Edom, and the name of his city was Dinhabah. NASB*
- (2) **Jeremiah 49:8** *"Flee away, turn back, dwell in the depths, O inhabitants of Dedan, For I will bring the disaster of Esau upon him At the time I punish him. NASB*
- (3) **Genesis 36:35** *Then Husham died, and Hadad the son of Bedad, who defeated Midian in the field of Moab, became king in his place; and the name of his city was Avith. NASB*
- (4) **Genesis 36:39** *Then Baal-hanan the son of Achbor died, and Hadar became king in his place; and the name of his city was Pau; and his wife's name was Mehetabel, the daughter of Matred, daughter of Mezahab. NASB*
- (5) **Jeremiah 49:22** *Behold, He will mount up and swoop like an eagle, and spread out His wings against Bozrah; and the hearts of the mighty men of Edom in that day will be like the heart of a woman in labor. NASB*
- (6) **Amos 1:12** *"So I will send fire upon Teman, And it will consume the citadels of Bozrah." NASB*
- (7) **Jeremiah 49:7** *Concerning Edom. Thus says the LORD of hosts, "Is there no longer any wisdom in Teman? Has good counsel been lost to the prudent? Has their wisdom decayed? NASB*
- (8) **Ezekiel 25:13** *therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, "I will also stretch out My hand against Edom and cut off man and beast from it. And I will lay it waste; from Teman even to Dedan they will fall by the sword. NASB*
- (9) Eziongeber, a sea port.

1 Kings 9:26 *King Solomon also built a fleet of ships in Ezion-geber, which is near Eloth on the shore of the Red Sea, in the land of Edom. NASB*

7. Map



F. **Occasion-** What was the purpose for writing it, in light of the background events

1. To encourage the Jews about their restoration, even in the midst of calamity
2. To warn the Edomites (brothers of the flesh) about their impending doom and judgment
3. God will judge the enemy of His people

G. Audience: To whom was it written?

1. To the Jews in the midst of judgment
2. To prideful Edomites

III. **OUTLINE OF THE BOOK (XO)**

A. THE COMING JUDGMENT ON EDOM (1-9)

1. The decree has gone forth to the nations (1)
2. Deceived by pride in her location, Edom will be brought down (2-4)
3. Destruction will be complete (5-6)
4. Edom will be betrayed by allies (7)
5. Not even wisdom and might can save them (8-9)

B. THE REASON FOR JUDGMENT ON EDOM (10-16)

1. For violence and unbrotherly conduct toward Jacob (10-11)
2. A rebuke against such conduct (12-14)
3. Therefore the "Day of the Lord" for them will mean receiving the same sort of treatment! (15-16)

C. THE EXALTATION OF ISRAEL OVER EDOM (17-21)

1. Deliverance and holiness will be found on Mt. Zion, not Mt. Seir (the prominent mountain in Edom)! (17a)
2. The house of Jacob shall consume the house of Esau (17b-18)
3. The children of Israel will possess Edom and surrounding nations (19-20)
4. The ultimate rule will be that of the Lord's (21)

IV. **Reading and Exposition: Part I "The Coming Judgment on Edom" (1-9)**

A. **Obad 1** *The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom — We have heard a report from the LORD, And an envoy has been sent among the nations saying, "Arise and let us go against her for battle" — NASB*

1. *The vision of Obadiah.*

- a) Here Obadiah claims to have a vision
- b) Because prophets considered themselves 'seers'
- c) Indicative of that the communication may not have just been words

2. *Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom*

- a) He gets right into it – nothing about himself

(1) I have a message from the Lord

(2) This says the Lord

(3) **2 Peter 1:21** *for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. NASB*

- b) He is speaking to Israel about Edom

(1) The basic message is that God is going to judge Edom

(2) This is the central theme: the judgment of Edom – flesh brothers

3. — *We have heard a report from the LORD, And an envoy has been sent among the nations saying, "Arise and let us go against her for battle"*
 - a) *We – Obadiah and the Jewish people*
 - b) *have heard a report from the LORD*
 - (1) God is revealing what is going to happen in the spirit realm
 - (2) God is revealing what He is doing
 - (3) **Amos 3:7** *Surely the Lord GOD does nothing Unless He reveals His secret counsel To His servants the prophets.* NASB
 - c) *And an envoy has been sent among the nations saying, "Arise and let us go against her for battle"*
 - (1) Other translations - Obad1:1
 - (a) *This is the prophecy of Obadiah — what the Sovereign LORD said about the nation of Edom. The LORD Will Punish Edom The LORD has sent his messenger to the nations, and we have heard his message: "Get ready! Let us go to war against Edom!"* TEV
 - (b) *In a vision the Lord God showed Obadiah the future of the land of Edom. "A report has come from the Lord," he said, "that God has sent an ambassador to the nations with this message: 'Attention! You are to send your armies against Edom and destroy her!'"* TLB
 - (c) *This is the vision that the Sovereign LORD revealed to Obadiah concerning the land of Edom. Edom's Judgment Announced We have heard a message from the LORD that an ambassador was sent to the nations to say, "Get ready, everyone! Let's assemble our armies and attack Edom!"* NLT
 - (2) God is sending a messenger to stir up the nations, telling them to unite in war to destroy the Edom
 - (a) This points out a central truth seen through the Scriptures
 - (b) God is over the nations
 - (c) He exalts one and brings down another
 - (d) Psa 2
 - (e) **Ps 113:4** *The LORD is high above all nations ; His glory is above the heavens.* NASB
 - (f) Zec 1
 - (3) God has sent forth a decree to destroy Edom because of her sins

B. Obad 2 *"Behold, I will make you small among the nations; You are greatly despised.* NASB

1. Here is what the Lord is saying to Edom
2. *Behold* - Look what I am going to do (take note)
3. *I will make you small among the nations*
 - a) Other translations
 - (1) The LORD says to Edom, "I will make you weak; everyone will despise you. TEV
 - (2) "I will cut you down to size among the nations, Edom, making you small and despised. TLB
 - b) *You are greatly despised*
 - (1) God speaking their future
 - (2) They will be greatly despised
 - (3) He is speaking about humbling them so that other nations despise them
 - c) Remember Edom prided herself in her great wealth by trading, and by her geography which seemed to protect her - Reminds me of America

4. God is saying that in contrast with their self-exalting spirit, He would make them small and in contrast with their pride, He would bring them down.
 - a) **James 4:6** *But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble."* NASB
 - b)

C. **Obad 3** *"The arrogance of your heart has deceived you, You who live in the clefts of the rock, In the loftiness of your dwelling place, Who say in your heart, 'Who will bring me down to earth?'"* NASB

1. *The arrogance (or pride) of your heart has deceived you*
 - a) What a verse and a lesson
 - b) Edom is deceived
 - c) Deceived in thinking they are protected
 - d) Deceived in thinking nothing can touch them
 - e) Deceived in thinking that their rocks and geography will keep them from being protected and destroyed
2. The next part of the verse contains the deception they were thinking
 - a) *You who live in the clefts of the rock, In the loftiness of your dwelling place, Who say in your heart, 'Who will bring me down to earth?'*
 - b) Living in a high, rocky place, caused them to think no one could bring them down.
 - c) They were deceived into thinking where their strength came from and their protection came from
 - d) Anytime we think it is from ourselves, we are deceived.
 - e) "Contributing to this self deception was the supposed security of Edom's geographical location in the mountains of Seir." – Bible Knowledge Commentary pg. 1456
3. Matthew Henry: What Edom says in the pride of his heart: Who shall bring me down to the ground? He speaks with a confidence of his own strength, and a contempt of God's judgments, as if almighty power itself could not overpower him

D. **Obad 4** *"Though you build high like the eagle, Though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down," declares the LORD.* NASB

1. An eagle builds his nest in high rocks and places nearly inaccessible to man
 - a) Edom was building in high rocks and places that seemed inaccessible
 2. *Though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down," declares the LORD.* NASB
 - a) Even if you were to build in the height of heaven, it won't make a difference.
 - b) God has determined to judge Edom and all of your defenses are equally useless
 - c) All of man's defenses are useless against the judgments and decrees of the Most High God
 3. This whole passage kind of reminds me of the "I will's of Satan"
 - a) **Isa 14:12-17** *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. 15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. 16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms; 17 That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? KJV*
- E. **Obad 5** *"If thieves came to you, If robbers by night- O how you will be ruined! — Would they not steal only until they had enough? If grape gatherers came to you, Would they not leave some gleanings?"* NASB

1. Here God begins to speak about the utter ruin that will come upon them
 - a) If thieves came by night, they would leave something behind
 - b) When the grapes are gleaned, there are gleanings left
 - c) Implied is the destruction that God was going to bring was total
 - d) Unlike either the thieves or grape gatherers, the Lord is going to leave nothing behind
 - e) Edom will be completely wiped out
2. Think about this in our modern view of God who judges no sin, tolerates all evil for ever
3. Thieves would be more merciful to you than you were to Israel (the chosen brother)

F. Obad 6 *"O how Esau will be ransacked, And his hidden treasures searched out!" NASB*

1. Note the prophet reminds them of their heritage as Esau
2. The nation of Esau will be ransacked and she will be stripped of her wealth
3. The treasures she thought were hidden and secure will be searched and taken
4. The hostile soldiers that God is raising up from other nations will come in and search and find the hidden treasure
5. We can't hide from God – try as we might
6. **Ps 139:7-12** *Where can I go from Thy Spirit? Or where can I flee from Thy presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, Thou art there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, Thou art there. 9 If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, 10 Even there Thy hand will lead me, And Thy right hand will lay hold of me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, And the light around me will be night," 12 Even the darkness is not dark to Thee, And the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to Thee.* NASB

G. Obad 7 *"All the men allied with you Will send you forth to the border, And the men at peace with you Will deceive you and overpower you. They who eat your bread Will set an ambush for you. (There is no understanding in him.) NASB*

1. Edom prided herself in her alliances and allies but God is declaring these allies will turn on them
 - a) *"All the men allied with you Will send you forth to the border,*
 - (1) The nations you have allied with will chase you from your land
 - b) *And the men at peace with you Will deceive you and overpower you.*
 - (1) Those nations who you have peace treaties will turn on you
 - c) *They who eat your bread Will set an ambush for you*
 - (1) Those who profess to be your friends, will turn on you and ambush you
 - (2) Edom will be deceived by her "friends"
 - (3) Pride of deception affects all of life – see nothing clearly
2. NLT: *"All your allies will turn against you. They will help to chase you from your land. They will promise you peace, while plotting your destruction. Your trusted friends will set traps for you, and you won't even know about it."*
3. *(There is no understanding in him.)*
 - a) Him – the nation of Edom
 - b) They think they are smart and wise and prudent; yet God says there is no understanding
 - c) **Prov 9:10** *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding . KJV*
 - d) Clarke: "Private counsels and public plans are all in operation against thee; and yet thou art so foolish and infatuated as not to discern thy own danger"
 - e) Clueless like people in this country

- H. **Obad 8** *"Will I not on that day," declares the LORD, "Destroy wise men from Edom And understanding from the mountain of Esau? NASB*
1. It appears that the Edomites were remarkable for wisdom, counsel, and prudence.
 - a) **Jeremiah 49:7** *Concerning Edom. Thus says the LORD of hosts, "Is there no longer any wisdom in Teman? Has good counsel been lost to the prudent? Has their wisdom decayed? NASB*
 - b) **Job 2:11** *Now when Job's three friends heard of all this adversity that had come upon him, they came each one from his own place, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite; and they made an appointment together to come to sympathize with him and comfort him. NASB*
 2. God is declaring He will destroy the wisdom of men on that day
 - a) "Her wise leaders will be unable to rescue her" – BKC
 - b) Her wisdom will not be able to save or help her on that day
 - c) **Jeremiah 9:23-24** *Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; 24 but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, justice, and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things, "declares the LORD. NASB*
 - d) **1 Corinthians 1:19** *For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And the cleverness of the clever I will set aside." NASB*
 3. This exposes the folly of relying on human wisdom
- I. **Obad 9** *"Then your mighty men will be dismayed, O Teman, In order that everyone may be cut off from the mountain of Esau by slaughter. NASB*
1. Teman
 - a) Edom's capital named for his grandson
 - b) Teman – "on the right {hand} i.e. south
 - c) Representative of the whole people, all strength, all nation
 2. The destruction will be complete and total
 - a) Mighty men – even Edom's warriors
 - b) Wise men
 - c) All that man trusts in.
 - d) The ones that the Lord trusts in
- J. Summary part I
1. God is going to be judging Edom
 2. The judgment will be complete
 3. Her enemies and friends will turn against her
 4. None can save her – not her wisdom, wealth, geography or power
 5. Her pride and arrogance will result in her complete humiliation
- V. **Reading and Exposition: Part II "The Reason for the Judgment on Edom" (10-16)**
- A. In this next section, the Lord lets Edom know why she is going to be judged
1. God does not just do things without cause
 2. He is very patient, but His patience will not last forever
 3. It is only right for the Lord to let them know why He is going to be punishing them and what their crimes are
- B. **Obad 10** *"Because of violence to your brother Jacob, You will be covered with shame, And you will be cut off forever. NASB*
1. One reason is "violence against Israel"

- a) Jacob (Israel) was the brother of Esau
- b) It is hard to determine what specific causes of violence there were
- c) Violence" includes all sorts of ill treatment,

(1) **2 Chronicles 28:17-18** *For again the Edomites had come and attacked Judah, and carried away captives. 18 The Philistines also had invaded the cities of the lowland and of the Negev of Judah, and had taken Beth-shemesh, Aijalon, Gederoth, and Soco with its villages, Timnah with its villages, and Gimzo with its villages, and they settled there. NASB*

(2) Obviously during the Babylonian invasion

Psalms 137:7 *Remember, O LORD, against the sons of Edom The day of Jerusalem, Who said, "Raze it, raze it, To its very foundation." NASB*

- d) Mistreatment against their brethren and blood

2. Because of this, they will be put to shame and cut off.

- a) Shame at the judgments that will befall them
- b) Shame at being humbled
- c) Shame for the violence against their brother
- d) Shame because they failed to reciprocate Jacob's friendship

(1) **Deuteronomy 23:7** *"You shall not detest an Edomite, for he is your brother; you shall not detest an Egyptian, because you were an alien in his land. NASB*

C. **Obad 11** *"On the day that you stood aloof, On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, And foreigners entered his gate And cast lots for Jerusalem — You too were as one of them. NASB*

1. Reason #2: failed to help or care about their brother

- a) When the foreign forces invaded Jerusalem, Edom stood and watched and did not even care
- b) They stood and watched
- c) Even though they did not participate, they were just as guilty
- d) **James 4:17** *Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin . KJV*

2. [And cast lots] - When the Chaldeans cast lots on the spoils of Jerusalem, thou didst come in for a share of the booty

D. **Obad 12** *"Do not gloat over your brother's day, The day of his misfortune. And do not rejoice over the sons of Judah In the day of their destruction; Yes, do not boast In the day of their distress. NASB*

1. Reason #3: Gloated and were happy at the destruction of their enemies

- a) They were secretly glad that Israel was destroyed
- b) Think about it going back to Esau when Jacob got the blessing
- c) Now they see Israel loosing it, human heart gloats and rejoices
- d) They continued to harbor a grudge because of their envy of Jacob acquiring Esau's birthright and the God's choosing of Jacob
- e) That is a wicked thing that displeases the Lord

(1) **Proverbs 24:17-18** *Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles; 18 Lest the LORD see it and be displeased, And He turn away His anger from him. NASB*

2. Reason #4: Talking big

- a) *Yes, do not boast In the day of their distress.*

- (1) "boast" – literally "make your mouth large"
- (2) Trash talk
- (3) Talking big

- E. **Obad 13** *"Do not enter the gate of My people In the day of their disaster. Yes, you, do not gloat over their calamity In the day of their disaster. And do not loot their wealth In the day of their disaster. NASB*
1. God tells them they should not have done this
 2. Other translations
 - a) You should not have entered the gate of My people in the day of their calamity and ruin; yes, you should not have looked [with delight] on their misery in the day of their calamity and ruin, and not have reached after their army and their possessions in the day of their calamity and ruin. AMP
 - b) You shouldn't have plundered the land of Israel when they were suffering such calamity. You shouldn't have gloated over the destruction of your relatives, looting their homes and making yourselves rich at their expense. NLT
 3. Reason #5:
 - a) Looted their brethren
 - b) They profited from their downfall
- F. **Obad 14** *"And do not stand at the fork of the road To cut down their fugitives; And do not imprison their survivors In the day of their distress. NASB*
1. Other translations
 - a) And you should not have stood at the crossway to cut off those of Judah who escaped, neither should you have delivered up those [of Judah] who remained in the day of distress. AMP
 - b) You should not have stood at the crossroads to catch those trying to escape. You should not have handed them over to the enemy on the day of their distress. TEV
 - c) You stood at the crossroads and killed those trying to escape; you captured the survivors and returned them to their enemies in that terrible time of his distress. TLB
 - d) You shouldn't have stood at the crossroads, killing those who tried to escape. You shouldn't have captured the survivors, handing them over to their enemies in that terrible time of trouble. NLT
 2. When the Jews tried to flee the invading armies, the Edomites refused to help them
 - a) They refused to let them enter their region
 - b) They imprisoned some
 - c) They captured others and then gave them back to their enemies.
 - d) They killed others
 3. Reason #6: Cruelty
- G. **Obad 15** *"For the day of the LORD draws near on all the nations. As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head. NASB*
1. Here God tells them they will reap what they have sown
 2. The day of the Lord
 - a) The day when God calls all men and nations to judgment and account
 - b) JFB: "the day in which He will manifest Himself as the Righteous Punisher of the ungodly peoples"
 - c) Edom's judgment foreshadows the judgment that will come upon all nations
 3. He will deal with them as they have dealt with His people
 - a) KP
 - (1) Reap what you sow
 - (2) Blessed are the merciful
 - (3) To the forward
 - (4) God treats you as you treat others

b) God's judgments on Edom corresponded to what they did to His people

- (1) She looted Jerusalem (13), so she was looted (6)
- (2) Edom killed fugitives (14) so she was slaughtered (8)

H. **Obad 16** *"Because just as you drank on My holy mountain, All the nations will drink continually. They will drink and swallow, And become as if they had never existed. NASB*

1. It appears that Edom also was involved in a drunken celebration on God's holy hill when she entered the city
2. Just as Edom and the other ungodly nations drunk, God will make them drink continually of His wrath
3. Other translations
 - a) For as you [Edom] have drunk upon the mountain of My holiness [desecrating it in the wild revelry of the destroyers], so shall all the nations drink continually [in turn, of My wrath]; yes, they shall drink, talk foolishly, and swallow down [the full measure of punishment] and they shall be [destroyed] as though they had not been. [Rev 16:14-16.] AMP
 - b) You drank my cup of punishment upon my holy mountain, and the nations round about will drink it too; yes, they will drink and stagger back and disappear from history, no longer nations any more. TLB
 - c) Just as you swallowed up my people on my holy mountain, so you and the surrounding nations will swallow the punishment I pour out on you. Yes, you nations will drink and stagger and disappear from history, as though you had never even existed. NLT
4. God's judgment and wrath is pictured in Scripture as a cup to drink
 - a) **Isaiah 51:17** *Rouse yourself! Rouse yourself! Arise, O Jerusalem, You who have drunk from the Lord's hand the cup of His anger; The chalice of reeling you have drained to the dregs. NASB*
 - b) **Isaiah 63:6** *"And I trod down the peoples in My anger, And made them drunk in My wrath, And I poured out their lifeblood on the earth." NASB*
5. Edom and these other nations that attacked and destroyed God's people are pictured as drinking a cup, only it will be the cup of God's wrath
 - a) It will be continual
 - b) You will swallow it completely
 - c) It will make it seem like you never existed as a nation

I. Summary part II

1. In this section, the Lord lets Edom know why she is going to be judged
 - a) Mistreatment against their brethren and blood
 - b) Failed to help or care about their brother
 - c) Gloated and were happy at the destruction of their enemies
 - d) Talking big
 - e) They profited from their downfall
 - f) Refused to help them
 - g) Cruelty
2. Because of this and in His anger, God is going to treat them like they treated His people and they will be like a people who seemed never to exist.

VI. Reading and Exposition: Part III "The Exaltation of Israel Over Edom" (17-21)

- A. In this last section, the Lord lets them know through the prophet that those Esau will be destroyed in God's wrath and though Israel is undergoing punishment at the moment, Israel will experience deliverance and the grace of God.
- B. **Obad 17** *"But on Mount Zion there will be those who escape, And it will be holy. And the house of Jacob will possess their possessions. NASB*

1. NIV: But on Mount Zion will be deliverance

- a) Mt. Zion is a synonym for Jerusalem (2Sam 5:7, Lam 1:4)
- b) This is a promise of the return from the Babylonian captivity.
- c) "But Jerusalem will become a refuge, a way of escape. Israel will reoccupy the land. TLB
- d) God is promising restoration to a people undergoing judgment
- e) "But Jerusalem will become a refuge for those who escape; it will be a holy place. And the people of Israel will come back to reclaim their inheritance. NLT
- f) God's covenant people who trust Him will be delivered and restored
- g) Escaped remnant

2. [It will be holy]

- a) Though the land and city have been defiled and desecrated by their enemies, it will again be holy and dedicated unto the Lord.
- b) They shall return to God, separate themselves from their idols, and become a better people than they were when God permitted them to be carried into captivity.

3. *And the house of Jacob will possess their possessions.*

- a) House of Jacob – descendants of Jacob
- b) God is going to restore what He took in judgment and punishment

4. Spiritually: Deliverance and holiness will be found on Mt. Zion, not Mt. Seir (the prominent mountain in Edom); Deliverance is through grace and not the flesh

C. **Obad 18** *"Then the house of Jacob will be a fire And the house of Joseph a flame; But the house of Esau will be as stubble. And they will set them on fire and consume them, So that there will be no survivor of the house of Esau," For the LORD has spoken. NASB*

- 1. The house of Jacob shall consume the house of Esau
- 2. After their return from captivity, the Jews, called here the house of Jacob and the house of Joseph, did break out as a flame upon the Idumeans; they reduced them into slavery; and obliged them to receive circumcision, and practice the rites of the Jewish religion. – Clarke

D. **Obad 19-20** *Then those of the Negev will possess the mountain of Esau, And those of the Shephelah the Philistine plain; Also, they will possess the territory of Ephraim and the territory of Samaria, And Benjamin will possess Gilead. 20 And the exiles of this host of the sons of Israel, Who are among the Canaanites as far as Zarephath, And the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad Will possess the cities of the Negev. NASB*

1. Here the Lord is speaking about the territories to be restored and conquered by God's people

- a) [Negev] - (dry, parched) - a term used by some English translations of the Bible for the southern desert or wilderness area of Judah
- b) [Shephelah] "lowland." Region of low foothills between the Philistine coastal plain and the highlands of Judah farther inland. It served as a battleground for Israel and Philistia during the period of the judges and early monarchy. Josh 15:33-41 lists about thirty villages and towns located in the region.
- c) Philistine plain – place of their enemies (Philistines were very aggressive)
- d) Sepharad (separated or descending) – location unsure

2. Here God is speaking about His people possessing the places of their enemies

E. **Obad 21** *The deliverers will ascend Mount Zion To judge the mountain of Esau, And the kingdom will be the Lord's. NASB*

1. Mt. Zion (McClintock and Strong)

- a) A prominent hill of Jerusalem, being generally regarded as the south-westernmost and the highest of those on which the city was built. It included the most ancient part of the city with the citadel, and, as first occupied for a palace, was called the city of David (2 Chron 5:2). Being the original site of the tabernacle

pitched by David for the reception of the ark, it was also called the holy hill, or hill of the sanctuary (Ps 2:6).

- b) Used to describe the church or city of the living. God (Heb 12:22,28; Gal 4:26; Rev 3:12; 21:2,10).
- 2. How many know there was a hill outside of Jerusalem where their was deliverance
 - a) Where the mountain of Esau - the flesh, was judged
 - b) Where the kingdom became the Lord's.
- 3. Christ is the firstborn of many brethren.

VII. Spiritual Application and Lessons

A. The faithfulness of the Word of God

- 1. God prophesied Edom would be destroyed?
- 2. After the prophecy of Obadiah...
 - a) The Edomites were overcome by the Nabataeans, forced to settle south of Judah
 - b) Around 100 B.C., they were conquered by John Hyrcanus of the Maccabees
 - (1) Who forced many of them to be circumcised and accept the Law
 - (2) As such, many became nominal Jewish proselytes (Herod the Great was one)
 - c) By 100 A.D., Edom as a race and nation had become lost to history

B. The need to be "spiritual Obadiah's

- 1. His name means "Servant of the Lord" ("servant of Yahweh")
- 2. We know little about who Obadiah was
- 3. It was not about Him
- 4. I am just a "servant of the Lord"
- 5. sin against a brother
 - a) Stems from pride
 - b) Standing aloof when our brother stumbles - attitude not our brother's keeper
 - c) Looking down on him (12)
 - d) Gloat
 - e) Feel good about self

C. Importance of Being a People of Hope

- 1. Even in the judgment of Jerusalem, God set a door of hope
- 2. All the prophetic warnings to God's people give hope
- 3. Even though the prophet saw ruin, He also saw restoration and spoke of it for the comfort and hope of the people

D. You reap what you sow

- 1. **Galatians 6:7** *Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.* NASB
- 2. **Obad 15**...*As you have done, it will be done to you. ...*NASB
- 3. **Matt 7:2** *"For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure , it will be measured to you.* NASB
- 4. **Luke 6:38** *"Give, and it will be given to you; good measure , pressed down, shaken together, running over, they will pour into your lap. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."* NASB

E. Pride goes before destruction

- 1. **Proverbs 16:18** *Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before stumbling.* NASB
- 2. Pride leads to vanity and a sense of independence from God

3. Just as Edom took pride in their geographical location, allies, wisdom and might, our pride can make us independent
4. Such arrogance God will punish
5. **Isaiah 13:9-11** *Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, Cruel, with fury and burning anger, To make the land a desolation; And He will exterminate its sinners from it. 10 For the stars of heaven and their constellations Will not flash forth their light; The sun will be dark when it rises, And the moon will not shed its light. 11 Thus I will punish the world for its evil, And the wicked for their iniquity; I will also put an end to the arrogance of the proud, And abase the haughtiness of the ruthless.* NASB
6. Pride is deceptive. It blinds.

F. The things men trust are will not avail in the day of wrath

1. Money
2. Self-protection
3. **Prov 10:2** *Ill-gotten gains do not profit, But righteousness delivers from death .* NASB

G. There is no where to hide or run from God

1. We might think we can hide or protect ourselves from the Lord
2. It is impossible

H. The importance of not gloating or rejoicing when your enemy falls

1. **Proverbs 24:17-18** *Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, And do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles; 18 Lest the LORD see it and be displeased, And He turn away His anger from him.* NASB
2. It shows there is a heart problem - Edom still carried a grudge from when Jacob stole the blessing

a) In the Exodus, Edom refused Israel passage through their land

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; 15 that our fathers went down to Egypt, and we stayed in Egypt a long time, and the Egyptians treated us and our fathers badly. 16 '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. 17 'Please let us pass through your land. We shall not pass through field or through vineyard; we shall not even drink water from a well. We shall go along the king's highway, not turning to the right or left, until we pass through your territory.'" 18 Edom, however, said to him, "You shall not pass through us, lest I come out with the sword against you." 19 Again, the sons of Israel said to him, "We shall 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." 20 But he said, "You shall not pass through." And Edom came out against him with a heavy force, and with a strong hand. 21 Thus Edom refused to allow Israel to pass through his territory; so Israel turned away from him.* NASB

b) Implacable enemies of Israel

(1) **Ezekiel 35:5** *"Because you have had everlasting enmity and have delivered the sons of Israel to the power of the sword at the time of their calamity, at the time of the punishment of the end,* NASB

I. Not to mistreat your brethren

1. **1 Corinthians 8:12** *And thus, by sinning against the brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ.* NASB
2. Be careful about our dealing with our brethren

J. There shall be a delivered remnant on Mt. Zion which should be holy

1. There will be a victories people possessing the land

K. Illustrates the battle between the flesh and spirit

1. Esau and Jacob are more than brothers, and the Edomites and the Judeans were more than nations

2. They are two opposing forces within the whole of the word of God.
3. They are the flesh and the spirit.
4. Esau the man of flesh, loved the flesh
5. Jacob the deceiver, yet hungry for spiritual things chosen by grace from the womb
6. Flesh rejoices over destruction of spirit
 - a) Esau was a man of the earth, wasn't he? Isn't that what it says? He was a man of the earth, he was a farmer, whereas Jacob was a man that stayed at home. And Adam means an earthly man, Esau was of the earth, profane, proud, filthy,
 - b) One day the flesh is going to be defeated, and the world, the flesh, and the devil by the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ. He's already done it for the believer at the cross, but our old nature still raises its head from day to day, but - hallelujah! - there's a day coming when it will be put to the grave for good and there'll be no resurrection for it.

L. In time of Divine judgment, God provides a means and place of escape for those who turn to him

1. Mount Zion would become a place of deliverance
 - a) Today, spiritual Mount Zion is a place to which we can turn
 - b) **Hebrews 12:22-24** *But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels, 23 to the general assembly and church of the first-born who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of righteous men made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than the blood of Abel.* NASB
2. This is a picture of the unconverted sinner
 - a) The unconverted sinner is ambitious in all his ways.
 - b) He thinks his life is impregnable, that no one will take his life from him, he has pride in the depths of his being
 - c) He has defiance, he hates those that love God and anything to do with God.

M. The man from Petra

1. Promise:

Isaiah 62:11-12 *Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth, Say to the daughter of Zion, "Lo, your salvation comes; Behold His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him." 12 And they will call them, "The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD"; And you will be called, "Sought out, a city not forsaken." NASB*
2. What the prophet sees

Isaiah 63:1 *Who is this who comes from Edom, With garments of glowing colors from Bozrah, This One who is majestic in His apparel, Marching in the greatness of His strength? "It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save." NASB*

 - a) Sees a blood stained divine warrior comes marching out of Bozrah towards Jerusalem.
 - b) Bozrah (meaning "shepherd") – royal city in Edom
 - c) Bozrah is the ancient name for the capital of Edom - Petra
3. The prophet's question
 - a) **Isaiah 63:2** *Why is Your apparel red, And Your garments like the one who treads in the wine press?* NASB
 - b) He asks why his garments are stained red
4. Warrior answers
 - a) **Isaiah 63:3-6** *"I have trodden the wine trough alone, And from the peoples there was no man with Me. I also trod them in My anger, And trampled them in My wrath; And their lifeblood is sprinkled on My*

garments, And I stained all My raiment. 4 "For the day of vengeance was in My heart, And My year of redemption has come. 5 "And I looked, and there was no one to help, And I was astonished and there was no one to uphold; So My own arm brought salvation to Me; And My wrath upheld Me. 6 "And I trod down the peoples in My anger, And made them drunk in My wrath, And I poured out their lifeblood on the earth." NASB

- b) This warrior is the Lord Jesus Christ returning to Jerusalem in the day of His wrath after subduing the nations.
- c) He is both judge and savior.
- d) This time He's not covered in the red of His own blood, but He's covered in the blood of them that have rejected Him. Isn't this a sobering picture?
- e) Blood of salvation and "their blood"