

Obadiah

"The 4th of July for the People of God"

Destruction Predicted (vs 1-9)

"The Day of the LORD
is near for all
nations...."

-Obadiah 15



1. "The vision of Obadiah" Describe what makes the prophecy of Scripture unique. (vs 1)
2. "Edom" (vs 1) Edomites were decedents of Esau.
3. What was the chief sin of the Edomites? (vs 3)
4. Would you say that there are nations today equally guilty of this sin? (vs. 3)

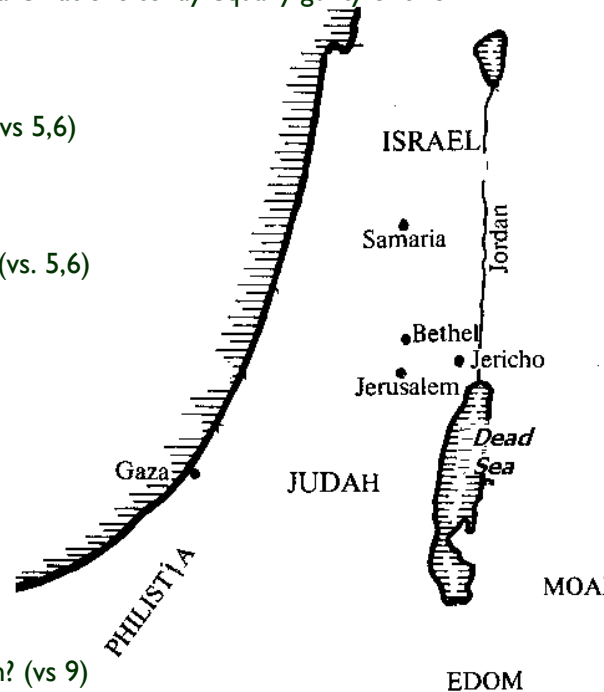
5. Besides its strategic location, what else could Edom take pride in? (vs 5,6)

6. How might nations today be tempted to take pride in this as well? (vs. 5,6)

7. What other source of security would fail Edom? (vs 7)

8. Read verse 8. Notice what Edom prided itself in. List ways that possessing this can be a blessing and a pitfall for nations:

9. To what extent is God's judgment going to take place against Edom? (vs 9)



The Cause of Edom's Punishment (vs 10-14)

10. Who was Edom's pride directed against? (vs 10)

11. What was the history of the relationship like between Israel and Edom? (vs 10) (cf. Ge 27:39-40)

12. How did Edom respond to Israel's suffering? (vs 11)

13. How does the attitude of pride display itself when Israel is being attacked by others? (vs. 12-14) Apply this to your own life.

The Day of the LORD: Retribution & Restoration (vs 15-21)

14. How does one understand the phrase "The Day of the LORD"? (vs 15) How did others use this phrase: (cf. John the Baptist Mat 3:7-12 & Malachi 4)

15. What do you notice in verse 15 as the 'new' topic under discussion?

16. What is meant by "drink"? (vs 16) -(cf. Jer 25:27-29)

17. How do you understand the place that Obadiah places opposite to Edom "Mount Zion" ? (see note on right)

18. "No survivors" (vs 18) Do you think this literally happened?

19. How are we to understand this restoration of Israel? (19-20) Did this literally happen? When will this happen? (read Amos 9:11-12, Rev 21:1-14)

20. On what note/tone does this prophecy end? (vs 21)

21. What kingdom does verse 21 speak about? (cf. Rev 11:15)

Edom is a type, a real place or person which represents a grander use of the image in picture language. Edom is both historically real and represents "all nations" which stand as enemies of God's people.



Further questions for consideration:

1. Does God decide who will rule a nation on earth? (vs 4 "I will bring you down")
2. Evaluate this statement: "God control nations that go to war so that the winner can always say, 'we had God on our side.'"
3. Edom took pride in strength, wealth, allies, and wisdom. (vs 3-8) List other things that we can be tempted to take pride in today.
4. Edom's pride displayed itself in horrible acts toward Israel. (vs 12-14) Agree or Disagree: Times have changed and nations are more civil today.
5. Obadiah's book closes on the reminder that God's church will work to spread his kingdom. (vs. 21) What ways do you see this being fulfilled in your church and personal life?