

{31} Obadiah

Chapter 1

(1) The vision of Obadiah {serving Jehovah}.^a This is what the Lord God {Jehovah} says concerning Edom:^b We have heard a message from the LORD {Jehovah}, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen {ungodly nations}: Rise up, even let us rise up against her for battle.

(2) Look and consider, I have given you *to be* small among the ungodly nations; you are greatly despised.

(3) The pride of your heart has deceived you, living in the clefts of the rock, his home is lofty; saying in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?

(4) Though you exalt yourself as the eagle, and though *you* set your nest among the stars, I will bring you down from there, says the LORD {Jehovah}.

(5) If thieves came to you, if robbers by night (how you have been cut off!), would they not have stolen until they had enough? If the grape-gatherers came to you, would they not leave gleanings?

(6) How Esau {Edom}^b is searched out! His hidden things are sought out!

(7) All the men of your confederacy have brought you to the border; the men who were at peace with you have deceived you, *and* have overcome you. Those who eat your bread have set a snare under you; *there is* no understanding in him

(8) Shall I not in that day even destroy the wise out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau, says Jehovah?

(9) And your mighty ones, O Teman, shall be afraid, so that each man from the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.

(10) Shame shall cover you because of the violence against your brother Jacob, and you shall be cut off forever.

(11) On the day of your standing on the other *side*, on the day that the strangers were capturing his force, and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, even you *were* like one of them.

1:1a - Obadiah {עבדיה} - serving Jah [short form of Jehovah]

1:1&6b - Edom - Esau - was made up of descendants of Esau - south of Jerusalem and west of the Dead Sea - a large area of cliffs - not easily accessible - the Edomites thought they could not be conquered - they opposed the Israelites when they came out of Egypt [Num. 20:14-21] {see also Gen. 36:8; Judges 11:17} and apparently took advantage of the fact that the Babylonians conquered Judah.

- Edom allowed in Israel's congregation after third generation [Deut. 23:7,8]
- Edom along with Moab and Ammon will escape antichrist [Dan. 11:48]
- See also Jeremiah 49:7-22

Obadiah does not tell us when his prophecy is given, but based on Obadiah 1:11 we know that it was written sometime after Nebuchadnezzar overthrew Jerusalem in 3520 A.H./C-522B.C. -- see [Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History](#)

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(12) But you should not have looked on the day of your brother on the day of his alienation; nor should you have rejoiced over the sons of Judah in the day of their ruin; nor should you have spoken proudly in the day of distress.

(13) You should not have entered into the gate of My people in the day of their calamity; also, you should not have looked on their affliction in the day of their calamity. Nor should you have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity.

(14) Nor should you have stood on the crossroads to cut off those of him who escaped; nor should you have shut up his survivors in the day of distress.

(15) Because the day of the LORD {Jehovah}^c is near on all the heathen {ungodly nations}; as you have done, it shall be done to you. Your reward shall return upon your head.

(16) Because as you have drunk upon My holy mountain, so all the heathen {ungodly nations} shall drink forever. Yes, they shall drink, and they shall swallow, and they shall be as *though* they had not been.

(17) But upon Mount Zion shall be deliverance; and there shall be holiness. And the house of Jacob will possess their own possessions.

(18) And the house of Jacob will be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame. And the house of Esau *will be* for stubble. And they will kindle in them and burn them up. And there will be no survivor for the house of Esau; because Jehovah has spoken it.

(19) And *those of* the south will possess the mountain of Esau and the low country of the Philistines. And they will possess the fields of Ephraim and the fields of Samaria; and Benjamin *will possess* Gilead.

(20) And the exiles of this army *will go to* the sons of Israel who will possess *the land* of the Canaanites to Zarephath; even the exiles of Jerusalem who *are* in Sepharad will possess the cities of the south.

(21) And deliverers will go up into the mountain of Zion to judge the mountain of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD {Jehovah's}.

1:15c – day of Jehovah - the day of the Lord [Zeph. 1:7]– Armageddon - Rev. 16:16
See note on I Cor. 1:8