

REAPING WHAT YOU SOW
OBADIAH 1:1-21 / 10-28-18 / PM

INTRODUCTION

A. Obadiah is the next character study we are looking at.

B. Obadiah is....

1. The fourth Minor Prophet.
2. The shortest book in the O.T.

I. HIS LIFE

A. Who was he?

1. His name means “Servant of Yahweh or Jehovah” and was a common O.T. name.
2. There are 13 people with the same name in the O.T. but cannot be sure which one he may have been.
3. We know nothing else about him.
4. Who were the recipients of his book? The Edomites--1a.

Obadiah 1:1a

The vision of Obadiah. This is what the Sovereign Lord says about Edom.....

- a. They were descendants of Esau, the twin brother of Jacob, who feuded for much of their lives.
- b. Although Esau and Jacob eventually reconciled, their descendants didn't.
- c. Edom refused Israel passage through their country during the Exodus.
- d. Edom was located just South of the Dead Sea.

- e. They were destroyed by the Nabataean's (Arabs) who themselves were destroyed by the Maccabees and eventually the Romans.
5. When did he write his book?
- a. The early date is 845 B.C. based on 2 Chron. 21:8-10, 16-17.
 - b. The late date is 587 b.c. with the Babylonian invasion.
 - c. The early date is better because Obadiah does not mention the destruction of the Temple or the exile, both of which occurred in 587 b.c.

II. OUTLINE OF OBADIAH.

- A. The coming judgment on Edom--1-9.

Obadiah 1:1

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, and let us go against her for battle"--

- B. The reasons for Edom's judgment--10-16.

1. Pride in their indestructibility--3-4.

Obadiah 1:3-4

^{1:3} The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, 'Who can bring me down to the ground?' ⁴ Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down," declares the Lord.

2. Prejudice against Israel--10.

Obadiah 1:10 (Either direct or indirect violence).

Because of the violence against your brother Jacob, you will be covered with shame; you will be destroyed forever.

- C. The rise of Israel over Edom--17-21.

Obadiah 1:18

The house of Jacob will be a fire and the house of Joseph a flame; the house of Esau will be stubble, and they will set it on fire and consume it. There will be no survivors from the house of Esau." The Lord has spoken.

II. LESSONS FROM OBADIAH.

1. Pride is deceptive--v. 3--The pride of your heart has deceived you..
2. Pride asks for trouble--Prov. 16:18.

Proverbs 16:18

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

3. "The Day of the Lord is Coming" or Your sins will find you out" (Joel, Amos, 2 Peter, etc.)--15a.

Obadiah 1:15a

"The day of the Lord is near for all nations.....

4. We reap what we sow--15b.

Obadiah 1:15b

.... As you have done, it will be done to you; your deeds will return upon your own head.

5. Don't rejoice in other's troubles--12.

Obadiah 1:12

You should not look down on 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.

6. Don't mistreat others (Edom mistreating Israel).