**The Book of Obadiah**

**Obadiah**

1The vision of Obadiah.

This is what the Lord Yahweh says concerning Edom:

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|  | We have heard a report from Yahweh,  and an envoy has been sent among the nations, saying,  “Rise up! And let’s rise up against her in battle.” |
| 2 | Behold, I will make you small  among the nations.  You will be greatly despised. |
| 3 | The pride of your heart has deceived you,  you who dwell in the clefts of the rock,  whose home is high,  who says in his heart,  “Who will bring me down to the ground?” |
| 4 | Even if you soar high like the eagle,  and though your nest is set among the stars,  I will bring you down from there,  says Yahweh. |
| 5 | If thieves came to you,  if robbers by night—  O how you will be destroyed![[1]](#footnote-23223)—  would they not steal only until they had enough?  If grape gatherers came to you,  would they not leave some gleanings *among the* grapes? |
| 6 | How Esau will be ransacked!  How his hidden treasures will be sought out! |
| 7 | All the men with whom you have made a covenant will drive to your border.  The men who were at peace with you  have deceived you and prevailed against you.  *Those who share* your bread  lay a snare under you.  There is no understanding in him. |
| 8 | Will I not in that day, says Yahweh,  destroy the wise men of Edom,  and understanding from the mountain of Esau? |
| 9 | And your warriors, O Teman, will be shattered,  in order that everyone from the mountain of Esau  will be cut off by slaughter. |
| 10 | Because of the violence *done to* your brother Jacob,  shame will cover you,  and you will be cut off forever. |
| 11 | In the day that you stood aloof,  in the day that strangers carried away his wealth  and foreigners entered into his gates,  and cast lots for Jerusalem,  you were also like one of them. |
| 12 | You should not have gloated over the day of your brother,  over the day of his disaster.  And you should not have rejoiced over the children of Judah  on the day of their destruction.  And you should not have spoken proudly  in the day of distress. |
| 13 | You should not have entered into the gate of my people  on the day of their calamity.  You should not have gloated over their affliction  on the day of their calamity.  You should not have seized their wealth  on the day of their calamity. |
| 14 | You should not have stood at the crossroads  to cut down those of his who escape.  You should not have handed over his survivors  in the day of distress. |
| 15 | For the Day of Yahweh is near  against all the nations!  As you have done, it will be done to you.  What you deserve will return upon your own head. |
| 16 | For just as you drank on my holy mountain,  so will all the nations drink continually.  Yes, they will drink and swallow down,  and they will be as though they had never been. |
| 17 | But in Mount Zion there will be those who escape,  and it will be holy.  And the house of Jacob  will dispossess those who had dispossessed them. |
| 18 | And the house of Jacob will be a fire,  the house of Joseph a flame,  and the house of Esau *will be* for stubble.  They will burn among them and consume them,  and there will not be a survivor  to the house of Esau.  For Yahweh has spoken. |
| 19 | Those of the Negev  will take possession of the mountain of Esau,  and those of the Shephelah  *will take possession of* the Philistines.  They will take possession of  the field of Ephraim and the field of Samaria.  Benjamin *will possess* Gilead. |
| 20 | And the exiles of this army of the children of Israel  will take possession of the land of the Canaanites even as far as Zarephath;  and the captives of Jerusalem, who are in Sepharad,  will take possession of the cities of the Negev. |
| 21 | And saviors will go up on Mount Zion  to rule the mountains of Esau,  and the kingship will be Yahweh’s. |

1. Heb. text uses the past tense for effect [↑](#footnote-ref-23223)