

OBADIAH

Week 4: Read Obadiah verses 1-21; Deuteronomy 23: 7-8

Who were the Edomites and what was their relationship to Israel over the years? Search out other mentions of them throughout Scripture.

Due to this history, why was their treatment of Israel (v.11-14) so offensive to the Lord?

In Deut. 23:7-8, we see God both protect and extend an invitation to the Edomites.

Given what we learn in Obadiah, what can we gather about Edom's choices over time?

How does Edom's fate in v.7 sting worse than a foreign attack? How is this similar to what they were doing to Israel in v. 11-14?

Compare v.7 to Genesis 25:19-34 & 26:34-27:45 (look for parallels or flipped scripts).

What can we learn about both Israel and Edom through their ancestors, Jacob & Esau?

What can we learn about pride, bitterness, and deceit?

Do you see any of Edom's sins of self-protection or bitterness in your own life?

Do you currently harbor any ill will or rejoice in the misfortune of people you used to be in fellowship with?

Is there anything you need to release into God's sovereign hands to allow Him to convey vengeance or mercy, even if He doesn't choose the one you may want Him to?

What can we learn about God from Obadiah? Where do you see reflections of Jesus?

Take some time this week to pray and reflect on what you are passing down to the next generation (whether the family be biological or spiritual), as far as sinfulness and faithfulness. What do you feel God calling you to shift in your life, attitudes, behavior?

Prayer:

Father, you are good and you are just. Thank you for taking vengeance out of our admittedly biased hands and placing it solely into your own. Help us to refrain from trying to grab it back, trusting your plan and your will. Help us also to not fall into the trap of bitterness and pride. May we seek good for those we no longer associate with, whether they be former friends, or perpetual enemies. Help us to see others through your holy eyes so that we can love them like you do. May we grow in holiness and in obedience to you so that we pass down faithfulness more than sinfulness to those who come after us. In the name of Jesus, amen.



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