

# ***"Prepare to Meet Your Maker"***

## **Book of Obadiah**

Contemplate to Celebrate...

### **1** The ***vision*** of Obadiah.

"VISION" = technical term... "God has revealed His will"

Key: The God that spoke... still speaks today!

*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"*

### **2** "See, I will make you ***small*** among the nations; you will be utterly despised.

God says: "I'm going to cut you down to size!"

### **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 say to yourself, 'Who can bring me down to the ground?'***

Jeremiah 7:8...

What are you proud of??? How might it deceive you???

1. American dream/comfort?
2. Knowledge? (vs. faith or wisdom)
3. Money?
4. Power?

5. Position?
6. Family?
7. Looks?
8. Skills?
9. Strength?
10. Friends? (see below)

What "security" do you have? What makes you feel safe???

Remember: "Pride comes before the fall..." - Proverbs

**4** *Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there **I will bring you down,** declares the Lord.*

NEVER play "chicken" with Christ!

If you don't think you need Him... you do more than ever!

### **Read Romans 1:16-25**

**16** *I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. **17** For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*

### **God's Wrath Against Mankind**

**18** *The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, **19** since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.*

**20** *For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.*

**21** *For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.*

**22** *Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools **23** and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.*

**24** *Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts... **25** They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.*

## **VIDEO: "MORE THAN EVER"**

**5** *"If thieves came to you, if robbers in the night—Oh, what a disaster awaits you—would they not steal only as much as they wanted? If grape pickers came to you, would they not leave a few grapes? **6** But how Esau will be ransacked, his hidden treasures pillaged!*

All God-deniers will be TOTALLY WIPED OUT!

**7** *All your allies will force you to the border; your **friends will deceive and overpower you**; those who eat your bread will set a **trap for you**, but you will **not** detect it.*

Phony "friends" are faithless foes! ("gather or scatter")

"Friends are nothing more..." – Mike Waters

Beware the Devil's "double-agents" – your friends!

"you will not detect" = SMART WOLVES!

**8** *"In that day," declares the Lord, "will I not destroy the wise men of Edom, men of understanding in the mountains of Esau? **9** Your warriors, O Teman, will be terrified, and everyone in Esau's mountains will be cut down in the slaughter. **10** Because of the violence against your brother Jacob, you will be covered with shame; you will be destroyed forever.*

## **VIDEO: Edomites & Esau**

**11** *On the day you stood aloof while strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them.*

NOTE: Sin of Omission! (James... "to know & not = sin")

Lazy & Aloof = Lost! (James... "dead faith")

### **vv.12-14 = "8 don't commands" (How to treat a brother)**

**12** *You should not look down on your brother in the day of his misfortune (1), nor rejoice over the people of Judah in the day of their destruction (2), nor boast... in the day of their trouble (3).*

**13** *You should not march through the gates of my people in the day of their disaster (4), nor look down on them in their calamity in the day of their disaster (5), nor seize their wealth in the day of their disaster (6).*

**14** *You should not wait at the crossroads to cut down their fugitives (7), nor hand over their survivors (8) in the day of their trouble.*

## **Focus shifts from "local to global"**

**15** ***"The day of the Lord is near for all nations. As you have done, it will be done to you; your deeds will return upon your own head.***

Judgment Day is coming... short term & long term!

Edom represents the world of obstinate lostness...

PRINCIPLE: You Reap What You Sow!!!

A holy, sovereign, & just God addresses EVERY sin...

\*\*\* Either you're going to pay for it...

\*\*\* OR... Jesus already has.

These are the ONLY 2 OPTIONS!

**16** *Just as you drank on my holy hill, so all the nations will drink continually; they will drink and drink and be as if they had never been.*

“Drink” = cup of God’s wrath...

There will be NO SURVIVORS!!!

**17** *But on Mount Zion will be deliverance; it will be holy, and the house of Jacob will possess its inheritance.*

God’s “REMNANT” will always be...

God is the ULTIMATE PROMISE-KEEPER!

**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.***

God will use His people (that are oppressed & persecuted today) as His instruments of justice on their persecuting oppressors... in the future

When God is finished... Esau’s children will be gone!

“The Lord has spoken” = FIRM fact!

vv.19-20 = God promises that His people will possess their land...

**19** *People from the Negev will occupy the mountains of Esau, and people from the foothills will possess the land of the Philistines. They will occupy the fields of Ephraim and Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead. **20** *This company of Israelite exiles who are in Canaan will possess the land as far as Zarephath; the exiles from Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the towns of the Negev.**

## **VIDEO: Rob's Baptism**

**21 Deliverers** will go up on Mount Zion to govern the mountains of Esau. And **the kingdom will be the Lord's.**

Jesus is coming again...

Jesus reigns... Now and FOREVERMORE!

Brothers & Sisters... WE WIN!!!

AMEN!

### **Closing Summary:**

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:1-22 (paraphrases Obadiah's message)**

**5** Now, brothers... you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. **3** While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

**4** But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. **5** You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. **6** So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled... **8** putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. **9** For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. **10** He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. **11** Therefore encourage one another and build each other up just as in fact you are doing.

#### **Final Instructions**

**12** Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. **13** Hold

them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. **14** And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. **15** Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.

**16** Be joyful always; **17** pray continually; **18** give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

**19** Do not put out the Spirit's fire; **20** do not treat prophecies with contempt. **21** Test everything. Hold on to the good. **22** Avoid every kind of evil.