

Timeline / Overview

Obadiah is the shortest book in the Old Testament with only 21 verses. The first line of Obadiah identifies the book as the vision of Obadiah (v. 1), whose name means “servant of Yahweh.” The vision is presented as a series of poems of divine judgment against ancient Edom. Edom was a small nation that bordered Israel to the southeast on the other side of the Dead Sea.

Edom also has a shared ancestry with Israel as both belong to the family of Jacob and Esau (and thus Abraham and Sara (Gen 25-27). Both Jacob and Esau received a new name that eventually became the names of the nation that descended from them. Jacob received the name “Israel” (Gen 32:28-29; Gen 35:9-10), and Esau was called “Edom” (Gen 25:30; Gen 36:1,8-9). Jacob and Esau had a tense relationship (Gen 25:23; 27:41; Num 20:14–21), and these nations had the same tensions as their ancestors. In Obadiah, Edom is referred to as “Esau” or “Mount Esau” (vv. 6, 8, 9, 19, 21) and the “house of Esau” (v. 18). Israel is referred to as “Jacob” or “house of Jacob” (vv. 10, 17, 18), “house of Joseph” (v. 18), and “Benjamin” (v. 19).

The timing of Obadiah is not completely clear, but it is likely around the time of Babylon’s invasion and exile of Judah in 586 BC (2 Kings 25). Regardless of when it was written, Edom takes advantage of the situation of Judah being invaded by plundering other Israelite cities and abusing and killing refugees (Psalm 137:7; Lam 4:21). In other prophetic books, God held Israel’s neighbors accountable for this kind of violence, and in this book Obadiah does the same for Edom.

Accusations Against the Leaders of Edom (vv. 1-14)

This section contains a series of accusations against the leaders of Edom for their pride and self-exaltation. They truly believed they were superior to the Israelites. They lived up in the rocks (mountains), and thought they were untouchable.

Obadiah v. 3 (ESV) - *The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock, in your lofty dwelling, who say in your heart, “Who will bring me down to the ground?”*

This pride led them to participate in the destruction of Judah. God says through Obadiah that Edom will be brought down from their heights.

Obadiah v. 4 (ESV) - *Though you soar aloft like the eagle, though your nest is set among the stars, from there I will bring you down, declares the Lord.*

As you have done to Israel, so will it be done to you:

Obadiah v. 10 (ESV) - *Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever.*

The Day of the Lord for All Nations (vv. 15-16)

Obadiah v. 15 (ESV) - *For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations. As you have done, it shall be done to you; your deeds shall return on your own head.*

Why are “All Nations” mentioned, when the first half of the book is all about Edom? Verse 15 is a hinge between the two sections.

All prideful nations that act like Edom will face justice in the same way. They will fall from their prideful heights. Obadiah sees Edom’s pride and fall as an example of how God will one day confront the pride of all nations and bring about their fall.

Of note, The word “**Edom**” in Hebrew (עֲדוֹם) is spelled with same letters as the word “**Adam**” (אָדָם) which means “**Humanity**”

It’s possible that Obadiah intended to use Edom’s rise and fall as a parable of how one day God’s justice will oppose pride and violence among all humanity (nations).

Hopeful Future (17-21)

God’s judgment is never his final word. In this final section we see a transition from speaking of physical Israel to spiritual Israel (God’s Kingdom).

Remember the conclusions of Joel and Amos:

Joel 2 & 3 – God will bring His presence among His people...all who call on Him will be delivered
Amos 9:11-15 – God will restore the house of David and all nations in His Kingdom

The attention goes back firmly onto Edom, though this begins to connect us with the spiritual future.

Obadiah v. 18 (ESV) - *The house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau stubble; they shall burn them and consume them, and there shall be no survivor for the house of Esau, for the Lord has spoken.*

The eternal purpose of Almighty God has always been that of the spiritual redemption and salvation of mankind through His Kingdom, spiritual Israel (“Mount Zion” – 17, 21).

Teacher's Notes

Handout notes are adapted from The Bible Project

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mGgWaPGpGz4>

Obadiah (ESV)

¹ The vision of Obadiah.

Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom:

We have heard a report from the LORD,
and a messenger has been sent among the nations:
“Rise up! Let us rise against her for battle!”

² Behold, I will make you small among the nations;
you shall be utterly despised.

³ The pride of your heart has deceived you,
you who live in the clefts of the rock,
in your lofty dwelling,
who say in your heart,
“Who will bring me down to the ground?”

⁴ Though you soar aloft like the eagle,
though your nest is set among the stars,
from there I will bring you down,
declares the LORD.

⁵ If thieves came to you,
if plunderers came by night—
how you have been destroyed!—
would they not steal only enough for themselves?

If grape gatherers came to you,
would they not leave gleanings?

⁶ How Esau has been pillaged,
his treasures sought out!

⁷ All your allies have driven you to your border;
those at peace with you have deceived you;
they have prevailed against you;
those who eat your bread have set a trap beneath you—
you have no understanding.

⁸ Will I not on that day, declares the LORD,
destroy the wise men out of Edom,
and understanding out of Mount Esau?

⁹ And your mighty men shall be dismayed, O Teman,
so that every man from Mount Esau will be cut off by slaughter.

- ¹⁰ Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob,
 shame shall cover you,
 and you shall be cut off forever.
- ¹¹ On the day that you stood aloof,
 on the day that strangers carried off his wealth
and foreigners entered his gates
 and cast lots for Jerusalem,
 you were like one of them.
- ¹² But do not gloat over the day of your brother
 in the day of his misfortune;
do not rejoice over the people of Judah
 in the day of their ruin;
do not boast
 in the day of distress.
- ¹³ Do not enter the gate of my people
 in the day of their calamity;
do not gloat over his disaster
 in the day of his calamity;
do not loot his wealth
 in the day of his calamity.
- ¹⁴ Do not stand at the crossroads
 to cut off his fugitives;
do not hand over his survivors
 in the day of distress.
- ¹⁵ For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations.
As you have done, it shall be done to you;
 your deeds shall return on your own head.
- ¹⁶ For as you have drunk on my holy mountain,
 so all the nations shall drink continually;
they shall drink and swallow,
 and shall be as though they had never been.
- ¹⁷ But in Mount Zion there shall be those who escape,
 and it shall be holy,
and the house of Jacob shall possess their own possessions.
- ¹⁸ The house of Jacob shall be a fire,
 and the house of Joseph a flame,
 and the house of Esau stubble;
they shall burn them and consume them,
 and there shall be no survivor for the house of Esau,
 for the LORD has spoken.
- ¹⁹ Those of the Negeb shall possess Mount Esau,
 and those of the Shephelah shall possess the land of the Philistines;
they shall possess the land of Ephraim and the land of Samaria,
 and Benjamin shall possess Gilead.

²⁰ The exiles of this host of the people of Israel
shall possess the land of the Canaanites as far as Zarephath,
and the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad
shall possess the cities of the Negeb.

²¹ Saviors shall go up to Mount Zion
to rule Mount Esau,
and the kingdom shall be the LORD's.

Timeline / Overview

Jacob and Esau / Israel and Edom

Genesis 25–27 (ESV)

¹ Abraham took another wife, whose name was Keturah. ² She bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. ³ Jokshan fathered Sheba and Dedan. The sons of Dedan were Asshurim, Letushim, and Leummim. ⁴ The sons of Midian were Ephah, Epher, Hanoch, Abida, and Eldaah. All these were the children of Keturah. ⁵ Abraham gave all he had to Isaac. ⁶ But to the sons of his concubines Abraham gave gifts, and while he was still living he sent them away from his son Isaac, eastward to the east country.

⁷ These are the days of the years of Abraham's life, 175 years. ⁸ Abraham breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people. ⁹ Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him in the cave of Machpelah, in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, east of Mamre, ¹⁰ the field that Abraham purchased from the Hittites. There Abraham was buried, with Sarah his wife. ¹¹ After the death of Abraham, God blessed Isaac his son. And Isaac settled at Beer-lahai-roi.

¹² These are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's servant, bore to Abraham. ¹³ These are the names of the sons of Ishmael, named in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the firstborn of Ishmael; and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, ¹⁴ Mishma, Dumah, Massa, ¹⁵ Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. ¹⁶ These are the sons of Ishmael and these are their names, by their villages and by their encampments, twelve princes according to their tribes. ¹⁷ (These are the years of the life of Ishmael: 137 years. He breathed his last and died, and was gathered to his people.) ¹⁸ They settled from Havilah to Shur, which is opposite Egypt in the direction of Assyria. He settled over against all his kinsmen.

¹⁹ These are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham fathered Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife. ²¹ And Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren. And the LORD granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³ And the LORD said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples from within you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,

the older shall serve the younger.”

²⁴ When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵ The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. ²⁶ Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau’s heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷ When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. ²⁸ Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹ Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted. ³⁰ And Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!” (Therefore his name was called Edom.) ³¹ Jacob said, “Sell me your birthright now.” ³² Esau said, “I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?” ³³ Jacob said, “Swear to me now.” So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴ Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

¹ Now there was a famine in the land, besides the former famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Gerar to Abimelech king of the Philistines. ² And the LORD appeared to him and said, “Do not go down to Egypt; dwell in the land of which I shall tell you. ³ Sojourn in this land, and I will be with you and will bless you, for to you and to your offspring I will give all these lands, and I will establish the oath that I swore to Abraham your father. ⁴ I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and will give to your offspring all these lands. And in your offspring all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, ⁵ because Abraham obeyed my voice and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.”

⁶ So Isaac settled in Gerar. ⁷ When the men of the place asked him about his wife, he said, “She is my sister,” for he feared to say, “My wife,” thinking, “lest the men of the place should kill me because of Rebekah,” because she was attractive in appearance. ⁸ When he had been there a long time, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked out of a window and saw Isaac laughing with Rebekah his wife. ⁹ So Abimelech called Isaac and said, “Behold, she is your wife. How then could you say, ‘She is my sister’?” Isaac said to him, “Because I thought, ‘Lest I die because of her.’” ¹⁰ Abimelech said, “What is this you have done to us? One of the people might easily have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us.” ¹¹ So Abimelech warned all the people, saying, “Whoever touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.”

¹² And Isaac sowed in that land and reaped in the same year a hundredfold. The LORD blessed him, ¹³ and the man became rich, and gained more and more until he became very wealthy. ¹⁴ He had possessions of flocks and herds and many servants, so that the Philistines envied him. ¹⁵ (Now the Philistines had stopped and filled with earth all the wells that his father’s servants had dug in the days of Abraham his father.) ¹⁶ And Abimelech said to Isaac, “Go away from us, for you are much mightier than we.”

¹⁷ So Isaac departed from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar and settled there. ¹⁸ And Isaac dug again the wells of water that had been dug in the days of Abraham his father, which the Philistines had stopped after the death of Abraham. And he gave them the names that his father had given them. ¹⁹ But when Isaac’s servants dug in the valley and found there a well of spring water, ²⁰ the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac’s herdsmen, saying, “The

water is ours.” So he called the name of the well Esek, because they contended with him.²¹ Then they dug another well, and they quarreled over that also, so he called its name Sitnah.²² And he moved from there and dug another well, and they did not quarrel over it. So he called its name Rehoboth, saying, “For now the LORD has made room for us, and we shall be fruitful in the land.”

²³ From there he went up to Beersheba.²⁴ And the LORD appeared to him the same night and said, “I am the God of Abraham your father. Fear not, for I am with you and will bless you and multiply your offspring for my servant Abraham’s sake.”²⁵ So he built an altar there and called upon the name of the LORD and pitched his tent there. And there Isaac’s servants dug a well.

²⁶ When Abimelech went to him from Gerar with Ahuzzath his adviser and Phicol the commander of his army,²⁷ Isaac said to them, “Why have you come to me, seeing that you hate me and have sent me away from you?”²⁸ They said, “We see plainly that the LORD has been with you. So we said, let there be a sworn pact between us, between you and us, and let us make a covenant with you,²⁹ that you will do us no harm, just as we have not touched you and have done to you nothing but good and have sent you away in peace. You are now the blessed of the LORD.”³⁰ So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank.³¹ In the morning they rose early and exchanged oaths. And Isaac sent them on their way, and they departed from him in peace.³² That same day Isaac’s servants came and told him about the well that they had dug and said to him, “We have found water.”³³ He called it Shibah; therefore the name of the city is Beersheba to this day.

³⁴ When Esau was forty years old, he took Judith the daughter of Beerli the Hittite to be his wife, and Basemath the daughter of Elon the Hittite,³⁵ and they made life bitter for Isaac and Rebekah.

¹ When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called Esau his older son and said to him, “My son”; and he answered, “Here I am.”² He said, “Behold, I am old; I do not know the day of my death.³ Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field and hunt game for me,⁴ and prepare for me delicious food, such as I love, and bring it to me so that I may eat, that my soul may bless you before I die.”

⁵ Now Rebekah was listening when Isaac spoke to his son Esau. So when Esau went to the field to hunt for game and bring it,⁶ Rebekah said to her son Jacob, “I heard your father speak to your brother Esau,⁷ ‘Bring me game and prepare for me delicious food, that I may eat it and bless you before the LORD before I die.’⁸ Now therefore, my son, obey my voice as I command you.⁹ Go to the flock and bring me two good young goats, so that I may prepare from them delicious food for your father, such as he loves.¹⁰ And you shall bring it to your father to eat, so that he may bless you before he dies.”¹¹ But Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, “Behold, my brother Esau is a hairy man, and I am a smooth man.¹² Perhaps my father will feel me, and I shall seem to be mocking him and bring a curse upon myself and not a blessing.”¹³ His mother said to him, “Let your curse be on me, my son; only obey my voice, and go, bring them to me.”

¹⁴ So he went and took them and brought them to his mother, and his mother prepared delicious food, such as his father loved.¹⁵ Then Rebekah took the best garments of Esau her older son, which were with her in the house, and put them on Jacob her younger son.¹⁶ And the skins of the young goats she put on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck.¹⁷ And she put the delicious food and the bread, which she had prepared, into the hand of her son Jacob.

¹⁸ So he went in to his father and said, “My father.” And he said, “Here I am. Who are you, my son?” ¹⁹ Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me.” ²⁰ But Isaac said to his son, “How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?” He answered, “Because the LORD your God granted me success.” ²¹ Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Please come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not.” ²² So Jacob went near to Isaac his father, who felt him and said, “The voice is Jacob’s voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau.” ²³ And he did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau’s hands. So he blessed him. ²⁴ He said, “Are you really my son Esau?” He answered, “I am.” ²⁵ Then he said, “Bring it near to me, that I may eat of my son’s game and bless you.” So he brought it near to him, and he ate; and he brought him wine, and he drank.

²⁶ Then his father Isaac said to him, “Come near and kiss me, my son.” ²⁷ So he came near and kissed him. And Isaac smelled the smell of his garments and blessed him and said,

“See, the smell of my son
is as the smell of a field that the LORD has blessed!

²⁸ May God give you of the dew of heaven
and of the fatness of the earth
and plenty of grain and wine.

²⁹ Let peoples serve you,
and nations bow down to you.

Be lord over your brothers,
and may your mother’s sons bow down to you.

Cursed be everyone who curses you,
and blessed be everyone who blesses you!”

³⁰ As soon as Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, when Jacob had scarcely gone out from the presence of Isaac his father, Esau his brother came in from his hunting. ³¹ He also prepared delicious food and brought it to his father. And he said to his father, “Let my father arise and eat of his son’s game, that you may bless me.” ³² His father Isaac said to him, “Who are you?” He answered, “I am your son, your firstborn, Esau.” ³³ Then Isaac trembled very violently and said, “Who was it then that hunted game and brought it to me, and I ate it all before you came, and I have blessed him? Yes, and he shall be blessed.” ³⁴ As soon as Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry and said to his father, “Bless me, even me also, O my father!” ³⁵ But he said, “Your brother came deceitfully, and he has taken away your blessing.” ³⁶ Esau said, “Is he not rightly named Jacob? For he has cheated me these two times. He took away my birthright, and behold, now he has taken away my blessing.” Then he said, “Have you not reserved a blessing for me?” ³⁷ Isaac answered and said to Esau, “Behold, I have made him lord over you, and all his brothers I have given to him for servants, and with grain and wine I have sustained him. What then can I do for you, my son?” ³⁸ Esau said to his father, “Have you but one blessing, my father? Bless me, even me also, O my father.” And Esau lifted up his voice and wept.

³⁹ Then Isaac his father answered and said to him:

“Behold, away from the fatness of the earth shall your dwelling be,
and away from the dew of heaven on high.

⁴⁰ By your sword you shall live,
and you shall serve your brother;
but when you grow restless
you shall break his yoke from your neck.”

⁴¹ Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob.” ⁴² But the words of Esau her older son were told to Rebekah. So she sent and called Jacob her younger son and said to him, “Behold, your brother Esau comforts himself about you by planning to kill you. ⁴³ Now therefore, my son, obey my voice. Arise, flee to Laban my brother in Haran ⁴⁴ and stay with him a while, until your brother’s fury turns away— ⁴⁵ until your brother’s anger turns away from you, and he forgets what you have done to him. Then I will send and bring you from there. Why should I be bereft of you both in one day?”

⁴⁶ Then Rebekah said to Isaac, “I loathe my life because of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries one of the Hittite women like these, one of the women of the land, what good will my life be to me?”

Genesis 32:28–29 (ESV)

²⁸ Then he said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed.” ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me your name.” But he said, “Why is it that you ask my name?” And there he blessed him.

Genesis 35:9–10 (ESV)

⁹ God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Paddan-aram, and blessed him. ¹⁰ And God said to him, “Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name.” So he called his name Israel.

Genesis 25:30 (ESV)

³⁰ And Esau said to Jacob, “Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!” (Therefore his name was called Edom.)

Genesis 36:1 (ESV)

¹ These are the generations of Esau (that is, Edom).

Genesis 36:8–9 (ESV)

⁸ So Esau settled in the hill country of Seir. (Esau is Edom.)

⁹ These are the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in the hill country of Seir.

Genesis 25:23 (ESV)

²³ And the LORD said to her,

“Two nations are in your womb,

and two peoples from within you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,
the older shall serve the younger.”

Genesis 27:41 (ESV)

⁴¹ Now Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him, and Esau said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are approaching; then I will kill my brother Jacob.”

Numbers 20:14–21 (ESV)

¹⁴ Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom: “Thus says your brother Israel: You know all the hardship that we have met: ¹⁵ how our fathers went down to Egypt, and we lived in Egypt a long time. And the Egyptians dealt harshly with us and our fathers. ¹⁶ And when we cried to the LORD, he heard our voice and sent an angel and brought us out of Egypt. And here we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge of your territory. ¹⁷ Please let us pass through your land. We will not pass through field or vineyard, or drink water from a well. We will go along the King’s Highway. We will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through your territory.” ¹⁸ But Edom said to him, “You shall not pass through, lest I come out with the sword against you.” ¹⁹ And the people of Israel said to him, “We will go up by the highway, and if we drink of your water, I and my livestock, then I will pay for it. Let me only pass through on foot, nothing more.” ²⁰ But he said, “You shall not pass through.” And Edom came out against them with a large army and with a strong force. ²¹ Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory, so Israel turned away from him.

Babylon’s invasion and exile of Judah in 586 BC

2 Kings 25 (ESV)

¹ And in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came with all his army against Jerusalem and laid siege to it. And they built siegeworks all around it. ² So the city was besieged till the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. ³ On the ninth day of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land. ⁴ Then a breach was made in the city, and all the men of war fled by night by the way of the gate between the two walls, by the king’s garden, and the Chaldeans were around the city. And they went in the direction of the Arabah. ⁵ But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king and overtook him in the plains of Jericho, and all his army was scattered from him. ⁶ Then they captured the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah, and they passed sentence on him. ⁷ They slaughtered the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, and put out the eyes of Zedekiah and bound him in chains and took him to Babylon.

⁸ In the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month—that was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon—Nebuzaradan, the captain of the bodyguard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. ⁹ And he burned the house of the LORD and the king’s house and all the houses of Jerusalem; every great house he burned down. ¹⁰ And all the army of the Chaldeans, who were with the captain of the guard, broke down the walls around

Jerusalem. ¹¹ And the rest of the people who were left in the city and the deserters who had deserted to the king of Babylon, together with the rest of the multitude, Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried into exile. ¹² But the captain of the guard left some of the poorest of the land to be vinedressers and plowmen.

¹³ And the pillars of bronze that were in the house of the LORD, and the stands and the bronze sea that were in the house of the LORD, the Chaldeans broke in pieces and carried the bronze to Babylon. ¹⁴ And they took away the pots and the shovels and the snuffers and the dishes for incense and all the vessels of bronze used in the temple service, ¹⁵ the fire pans also and the bowls. What was of gold the captain of the guard took away as gold, and what was of silver, as silver. ¹⁶ As for the two pillars, the one sea, and the stands that Solomon had made for the house of the LORD, the bronze of all these vessels was beyond weight. ¹⁷ The height of the one pillar was eighteen cubits, and on it was a capital of bronze. The height of the capital was three cubits. A latticework and pomegranates, all of bronze, were all around the capital. And the second pillar had the same, with the latticework.

¹⁸ And the captain of the guard took Seraiah the chief priest and Zephaniah the second priest and the three keepers of the threshold; ¹⁹ and from the city he took an officer who had been in command of the men of war, and five men of the king's council who were found in the city; and the secretary of the commander of the army, who mustered the people of the land; and sixty men of the people of the land, who were found in the city. ²⁰ And Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard took them and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah. ²¹ And the king of Babylon struck them down and put them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was taken into exile out of its land.

²² And over the people who remained in the land of Judah, whom Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left, he appointed Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, son of Shaphan, governor. ²³ Now when all the captains and their men heard that the king of Babylon had appointed Gedaliah governor, they came with their men to Gedaliah at Mizpah, namely, Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan the son of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite, and Jaazaniah the son of the Maacathite. ²⁴ And Gedaliah swore to them and their men, saying, "Do not be afraid because of the Chaldean officials. Live in the land and serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you." ²⁵ But in the seventh month, Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, son of Elishama, of the royal family, came with ten men and struck down Gedaliah and put him to death along with the Jews and the Chaldeans who were with him at Mizpah. ²⁶ Then all the people, both small and great, and the captains of the forces arose and went to Egypt, for they were afraid of the Chaldeans.

²⁷ And in the thirty-seventh year of the exile of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, Evil-merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, graciously freed Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison. ²⁸ And he spoke kindly to him and gave him a seat above the seats of the kings who were with him in Babylon. ²⁹ So Jehoiachin put off his prison garments. And every day of his life he dined regularly at the king's table, ³⁰ and for his allowance, a regular allowance was given him by the king, according to his daily needs, as long as he lived.

Edom takes advantage of the situation

Psalm 137:7 (ESV)

⁷ Remember, O LORD, against the Edomites
the day of Jerusalem,
how they said, “Lay it bare, lay it bare,
down to its foundations!”

Lamentations 4:21 (ESV)

²¹ Rejoice and be glad, O daughter of Edom,
you who dwell in the land of Uz;
but to you also the cup shall pass;
you shall become drunk and strip yourself bare.

Accusations Against the Leaders of Edom (vv. 1-14)

Obadiah v. 3 (ESV) - *The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock, in your lofty dwelling, who say in your heart, “Who will bring me down to the ground?”*

Obadiah v. 4 (ESV) - *Though you soar aloft like the eagle, though your nest is set among the stars, from there I will bring you down, declares the Lord.*

Obadiah v. 10 (ESV) - *Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever.*

The Day of the Lord for All Nations (vv. 15-16)

Obadiah v. 15 (ESV) - *For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations. As you have done, it shall be done to you; your deeds shall return on your own head.*

עֲדוֹמָי **edom** (10b); from the same as 119; the name of a condiment:—stuff(1).¹

עֲדוֹמָי (^ע*dôm*): n.pr.; ≡ Str 123; TWOT 26e—LN 93-pers. **Edom: 1.** (male) **son of Jacob also known as Esau** (Ge 25:30; 36:1) **2.** (gent.) **the clan of Edom 1** (Nu 20:18), see also 122, note: for MT text in 2Sa 8:12, 13; Eze 16:57, see 806

¹ Thomas, R. L. (1998). [New American Standard Hebrew-Aramaic and Greek dictionaries : updated edition](#). Anaheim: Foundation Publications, Inc.

עֲדֹמָי (ʿē·dôm): n.pr.; ≡ Str 123; TWOT 26e—LN 93—place (loc.) **Edom**: region S of the Dead Sea, N of the Red Sea, E of the Rift Valley, sometimes expanding west into the Negev (Ge 32:4; Jdg 5:4), note: for MT text in 2Ch 20:2, see 806.5²

אָדָם ('ā·dām): n.masc.; ≡ Str 120; TWOT 25a—1. LN 9.1–9.23 **person**, human, i.e., a single human being of either sex (Ps 49:21[EB 20]), see also 134; 2. LN 9.1–9.23 **humankind**, mankind, a class of being created by God without regard to sex, with a focus as a class of creature, distinct from animals, plants, or even spiritual beings (Ge 1:26); 3. LN 87.58–87.75 unit: אָדָם בֶּן (bēn 'ā·dām)1 low class person, formally, son of man, i.e., a person of low status, implying poverty (Ps 49:3[EB 2]); 4. LN 9.1–9.23 unit: אָדָם בֶּן (bēn 'ā·dām)1 human, formally, son of man, i.e., a person who is in the class of humanity, as contrasted to other classes of supernatural beings (Eze 2:1)³

Hopeful Future (17-21)

Obadiah v. 18 (ESV) - *The house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau stubble; they shall burn them and consume them, and there shall be no survivor for the house of Esau, for the Lord has spoken.*

² Swanson, J. (1997). [Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew \(Old Testament\)](#) (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

³ Swanson, J. (1997). [Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew \(Old Testament\)](#) (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.