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**C0803 – January 23, 2008 – The Salvation Of Israel**

We've been working with the Book of the Twelve, the last twelve books of the OT, sometimes called the Minor Prophets and they are prophets but they are not minor. They are case scrolls that record the covenant faithfulness of YHWH and the covenant violations of Israel. Remember where we're coming from or else you'll lose the forest for the trees. These are prophets that didn't just foretell the future, they do a lot of that, but they also bring a historical report card. And that's a report card based on two major OT covenants made between God and the unique nation Israel; the Abrahamic covenant and the Mosaic covenant. The Abrahamic is the eternal contract established by God in Gen 15 when He cuts the animals in half and passes between the pieces, thus obligating Himself to Abraham and later Isaac, Jacob and Jacob's descendants. So, that's a one-sided agreement. "I'm going to do this or else what happened to the animals is going to happen to Me." It's not a light thing. This didn't happen with any other people in history. Then you have the Mosaic Covenant and this is a temporal contract established between God and Israel, those are your parties. This is a two-sided agreement. If you bless Me you will be blessed if you curse Me you will be cursed. And the blessings and cursings are outlined in Lev 26 and Deut 28 and it takes you through the five degrees of cursing. You really can't understand the OT if you don't understand those two chapters. You won't understand why the Holy Spirit wanted certain events recorded and left others out. But if you get the idea in your head that we need some basis for recording the faithfulness or unfaithfulness of these two parties then you're starting to understand the Bible. The Bible is not just some thing that rested on oral tradition for a few millennia and someone decided, "Well, oh gee, maybe we ought to write all this stuff down." No, you had a strict system implemented by God through the scribes that preserved the text. They would very carefully write down and transmit what happened. This was a rigorous system. They knew the exact

number of Hebrew words and letters in each scroll and which letter was the middle letter and they'd copy the thing all out and then count all the words, make sure they had the right number, then they'd count out all the letters, make sure you had the *aleph or dalet* or whatever in the middle and if it was wrong they'd toss it out, just bury it. Why such a strict system? Because you're dealing with contractual information and if you get that wrong how in the world are you ever going to measure their behavior? So, those covenants set you up for the doctrine of inerrancy and that's why you have a written text, faithfully copied down to every jot and tittle as Jesus said. So, these two contracts are fundamental to the entire structure of the rest of the OT. So, that's why I say they are the key to the prophets. It doesn't matter whether they are major; Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Isaiah, et. al. or some of these smaller one's we're dealing with. They are keys to unlock the contents. So, all of the prophets are like prosecuting attorneys for God and they roll into the courtroom with a few scrolls outlining contractual breaches by the nation Israel and a call to return which will issue in divine blessing, prosperity, the whole bit. So that, what Israel's history looks like is you have this great plunge as they cascade through the five degrees of cursing finally result in Exile. Then you have this last minute conversion, the world is literally taking it's last breath of fresh air, it's about to be total extermination of the human race, and then Israel repents and God fulfills the Abrahamic Covenant, the Kingdom comes and all that where when Jesus takes His seat on the Davidic Throne and issues in global domination in Israel's favor, she gets her land and the world enters a new phase.

One of the characteristics of that time when Israel repents, just before God fulfills all these things is Global Anti-Semitism. We're almost there today. America is the only so-called friend of Israel and there's a lot of skepticism as to whether we're really their friends or not right now. But if you look at the track record of the nations and that's what we're getting in Obadiah, the track record of Esau, Jacob's brother who is the greatest anti-Semitic people on planet earth from God's perspective. If you look at the track record it doesn't play out too well for the nations that treat Israel poorly. Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Rome, you can carry this, albeit carefully, into Church History and we can talk about England and the White Paper in 1939. Here's a country that under Lord Balfour in 1917 set it up for Israel to go back into the Land but by the 1930's, here they had blessed Israel and it looks all good for England and then she starts inciting the Arabs against Israel, supplying

their militias and meanwhile Jews, during the Nazi Holocaust are escaping and getting on ships to head to Israel and what do you have the British doing at the docks? Turning them away. “You can’t dock here, we’ve got the White Paper and the White Paper says ‘No more than x number of Jews can enter’ and we’ve already reached that number so you’ll have to turn around, go back.” “Go back? Go back where? We don’t have anywhere to go? Europe’s a mess, we’ve got no homes. Go back to Europe where the Nazi regime can capture us and put us in concentration camps and gas us all to death, make soap out of us?” And England suffered for that. She was the greatest empire at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and now she’s nothing but a blip on the map. You can talk about Germany and they’re treatment of Israel and just ask yourself, when Nazi Germany was shut down who got all the German engineers? Where did the US space program get its start? It wasn’t brilliant American’s. It was brilliant German scientists like Wernher von Braun who headed NASA till the early 60’s. The German scientists that came to America were what provided the technology that helped us beat the Russians in the race to get the high ground, space, and you see that all coming home in the Reagan era with Star Wars. But it all goes back to one of the aspects of the Abrahamic Contract recorded in Gen 12:3, “I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse.” Did you know that it was America under President Truman, here’s a democrat that I could vote for, the guy was pro-Israel, and because of him and only him, because his cabinet would never have gone for this, but Truman was the first to recognize the State of Israel on May 14, 1948, and we’ve experienced divine blessing because we operated positively toward Israel. But we’re losing that now and tonight we’re going to see where that all leads in the escalation toward Global Anti-Semitism in the Tribulation. We’ve already traced Edom, Jacob’s twin brother. Should have been Israel’s best friend, blood ties and all, but no, sided with the enemies of Israel in vv 10-11, “Because of violence to your brother Jacob, You will be covered *with* shame, And you will be cut off forever. “On the day that you stood aloof, On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, And foreigners entered his gate And cast lots for Jerusalem— You too were as one of them.” So, let’s pick up with v 1.

## **Obadiah: Judgment on Anti-Semitism**

### **I. Nations Summoned against Israel (1)**

In verse 1 the nations are summoned to go up against Israel. He starts with **The vision of Obadiah. Obadiah** was a prophet who wrote around 845BC. He was a contemporary of other prophets like Elijah and Elisha. He was from the southern kingdom which was composed of two tribes; Judah and Benjamin. But his prophecy is not directed to the two tribes or the ten northern tribes. It's directed against **Edom. Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom**—Edom is the nickname of Esau, Jacob's twin brother. So, the prophecy concerns the descendants of Esau and it's a message from the **Lord God**. That's the rare Hebrew combination *Adonai YHWH* and the two names are a summary of the whole book. Adonai means "sovereign over the cosmos" and YHWH means "covenant keeper". So, Obadiah expounds that God is sovereign over the cosmos including the nations and is a covenant making and keeping God. Edom is declared to be the great enemy of twin brother Jacob in a universal anti-Semitic campaign to exterminate Israel that escalates into a future last days judgment on all the nations coupled with the salvation of a Jewish remnant issuing in the Kingdom of God. And here's what the prophets heard. **We have heard a report from the LORD, And an envoy has been sent among the nations saying, "Arise and let us go against her, that's Israel, for battle"**— All the nations in the latter days will go up against Israel in a worldwide anti-Semitic campaign.

## II. Edom the Greatest Anti-Semitic Nation (2-14)

Verses 2-14 explain that Edom is the greatest anti-Semitic nation in the history of the world. And in vv 2-4 he gives a proclamation of judgment.

### A. Proclamation of Judgment (2-4)

**2"Behold, I will make you small among the nations; You are greatly despised. 3"The arrogance of your heart has deceived you,** so they had the mental attitude of pride. Pride cometh before a fall. Why were they arrogant? Because they lived **in the clefts of the rock**, this is a rocky, red land of sandstone, very rough terrain, very difficult to navigate and thus a natural military fortress as they would carve out dwellings high in the rock. **In the loftiness of your dwelling place.** Now look what they said **in their heart, 'Who will bring me down to earth?'** You're not going to bring us down. You're not going to touch us, we're untouchables. We've got the world's greatest natural military fortress. **4"Though you build high like the**

**eagle, Though you set your nest among the stars, From there I will bring you down,”** that’s an allusion to the fall of Satan. Pride was found in Satan’s heart and he fell so pride is also found in Edom’s heart and she will fall. Thus **declares the LORD**. Verses 5-9 give the plan of judgment. How is God going to bring them down? Well, it’s a two-fold battle.

## **B. Plan of Judgment (5-9)**

**“If thieves came to you, If robbers by night— O how you will be ruined!— Would they not steal *only* until they had enough? If grape gatherers came to you, Would they not leave *some* gleanings?** The point is the attackers are not going to leave anyone or anything salvageable. It’s a total extermination and destruction of Edom and all her possessions. **“O how Esau will be ransacked, *And* his hidden treasures searched out!** Everything of value will be taken. Now verse 7 brings in the plot, **“All the men allied with you Will send you forth to the border,** So their allies, their covenanted allies and this is likely Arab neighbors whom they’ve made a deal with will draw them out of their natural fortress dwellings to the Mt Seir range along the western border of Edom. **And the men at peace with you Will deceive you and overpower you.** So, they are already deceived because of their arrogance and so they don’t detect this deception by their allies and they will wander out to the border. ***They who eat your bread Will set an ambush for you.*** So it’s a trap. And you have this odd parenthetical **(There is no understanding in him.)** meaning there’s no understanding in Edom, there’s no understanding because it’s a surprise attack. They had no idea it was coming. **“Will I not on that day,” declares the LORD,** and I take it that that day is the Day of the Lord mentioned in v 15, the future Great Tribulation. **Will I not on that day, declares the Lord, “Destroy wise men from Edom And understanding from the mountain of Esau? “Then your mighty men will be dismayed, O Teman,** So, they all gather at the border to go to battle against Israel and suddenly they are attacked by their own allies and there are heavy losses but some life is left but that sets up the final military maneuver as you can see in the words, **So that,** and that’s a purpose clause, **So that everyone may be cut off from the mountain of Esau by slaughter.** But that doesn’t happen till v 18 and it’s the house of Jacob and Joseph which finish them off to the last man. So, there are seven military movements in the final extermination of Edom.

Movement one, v 1, initiated by YHWH, an envoy is sent to all the nations, including Edom, to go to battle against Israel. Movement 2, v 7, initiated by Edom's allies, they will draw Edom out to join the battle against Israel. Movement 3, vv 7-9a, initiated by Edom's allies, they will turn against Edom in a surprise attack causing heavy losses. Movement 4, v 1, initiated by the allied forces minus Edom, they will go up to battle against Israel, perhaps to join the allied forces of the Anti-Christ at Armageddon. Movement 5, implied by v 17 there is a battle between Israel and the nations. Movement 6, v 17, a remnant of Israel will escape (v 17). Movement 7, the remnant of Israel will totally destroy the remaining house of Esau (v 18). There will be no survivor of Edom at all. This is total annihilation. This is holy war and holy war means you go in and you kill all the men, women and children, cattle, chicken's, everything, you don't leave one thing behind. Edom has had her day of grace, she's had every opportunity to respond to God's grace and if you don't want grace, "Fine, it's over, that's it, you've had your shot. I warned you so don't come crying to me." Holy war is total annihilation. So, there's no nation of Edom in the Millennium. Why? vv 10-14 describe why.

### C. Reason for Judgment (10-14)

#### 1. Past Anti-Semitism (10-11)

Verses 10-11 describe the past-Anti-Semitism of Edom, something near Obadiah's day and notice the phrase in v 11, **on that day**, that's a past day and that contrasts with vv 12-14 where it says repeatedly **in that day**, that's a future day. So, why holy war? Verse 10, "**Because of violence to your brother Jacob, You will be covered *with* shame, And you will be cut off forever.** Violation of Gen 12:3, if you bless Israel you will be blessed if you curse Israel you will be cursed. That's the interpretive key to Obadiah. Verse 11, "**On the day that you stood aloof**, this is the day of a past battle against Jerusalem, probably while Jehoram was king of Judah, **On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, And foreigners entered his gate And cast lots for Jerusalem— You too were as one of them.** They didn't do a thing, they stood by, they watched the whole thing go down and it's more than Anti-Semitism at this point, it's Anti-Brother. And notice how just standing by and doing nothing doesn't remove us from culpability. The refusal to lift a finger for twin brother Jacob is interpreted in v 10 as an act of **violence**.

## 2. Future Anti-Semitism (12-14)

Now verses 12-14 jump forward signaled by the use of **in that day**. Verse 12, **“Do not gloat over your brother’s day**, that is, over Israel’s day. See, Israel’s day is the second half of the Tribulation, also known as the Great Tribulation. During the first half of the Tribulation Israel has peace, it’s a temporary peace ushered in by the signing of a seven year contract. It all starts with Dan 9 where the Antichrist is going to sign a contract with the leaders of the nation of Israel, a peace contract. We have all these peace problems in the Middle East, we can never get peace. I even rented a documentary called “Elusive Peace” because this thing is so out of control. It’s far beyond human factors we’re talking about God’s possession, Israel and that promised land and Satan is at war with God to destroy that people Israel and take that land for Himself. So Satan sets up his key man in the Middle East, he comes in, he’s a brilliant social and political ruler who knows how to work the peace deal, knows how to bring peace and stability to the region, he convinces the top Israeli officials that he’s got the Roadmap to Peace all laid out and they buy into it and it’s a seven-year pact, I’ll provide military protection for you. So, Satan’s key man is snuggling up to the Jews and in the middle of the seven years he breaks his contract, sets up the abomination of desolation in the Temple and sends all his military forces to destroy Israel. So that’s what Obadiah is referring to, you Edomites **Do not gloat over your brother’s day**. Israel is going to get raked over the coals during this period of time. So he goes on and calls it **The day of his misfortune. And do not rejoice over the sons of Judah In the day of their destruction; Yes, do not boast In the day of their distress**. And the Hebrew word there is *sarar* which means “trouble” and is the same word used in Jer 30:7 of “the day of Jacob’s trouble.” Why don’t we turn there, you need to see this. The great tribulation is unbearable to think about and I just want you, in the imagination of your minds eye to think of it. This is powerful imagery, back up to v 5, “For thus says the LORD, ‘I have heard a sound of terror, Of dread, and there is no peace. <sup>6</sup>‘Ask now, and see If a male can give birth. Why do I see every man *With* his hands on his loins, as a woman in childbirth?’” These people are in utter terror. “And *why* have all faces turned pale? <sup>7</sup>‘Alas! for that day is great, There is none like it; And it is the time of Jacob’s distress,’” and notice the last word, “But he will be saved from it.” There will be a remnant and you see the themes of Judgment/Salvation woven together don’t

you, just like the Flood, just like the Exodus, just like the Cross, over and over and over, judgment/salvation. But think of the sheer terror of these people. The Holocaust is a cake walk compare to this. It doesn't even measure on the scale. In fact, this day, known as the birth pangs of the Messiah, you see the metaphor there in v 6 of a male giving birth, well the rabbi's saw this and they so feared the severity of this day that one said, "Let him come, but let me not see him." In other words, that's great that the Messiah is going to come and all but I don't want to be here when He comes. It's that terrifying. And here's Edom, being warned not to gloat when all these things come on Jacob. Verse 13, "**Do not enter the gate of My people, that's Jerusalem, *In the day of their disaster. Yes, you, as if they're hard of hearing, do not gloat over their calamity *In the day of their disaster. And do not loot their wealth *In the day of their disaster. 14*'Do not stand at the fork of the road To cut down their fugitives; And do not imprison their survivors *In the day of their distress.***** So, when the abomination of desolation is set up, turn over to Matt 24, what's going to happen, what is this a sign of, to the Jews? To get out of town, get out of Jerusalem, get out of Israel. V 15 you have the abomination of desolation, v 16 "then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains. 17"Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house. 18"Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak. 19"But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!" Obviously because of the difficulty of escaping, Verse 20, "But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath. 21"For then there will be a great tribulation," there's the phrase, parallel to the time of Jacob's distress, the second half of the Tribulation, just what Obadiah is talking about, their day of distress, "For then there will be a great tribulation such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will." This is an expression of unparalleled greatness. The destruction of human flesh in those days is beyond human comprehension. Even the days of Noah cannot rival the slaughter. To the point that, the verse says, "Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short." We're talking global extermination of the human race. The phrase cut short means if the Tribulation continues one day beyond the set point no human life would exist on planet earth. The judgments are that extreme. And Edom is being warned, "Hey, when all this is happening to your twin brother Jacob, don't gloat, don't rejoice, don't boast, don't loot, don't position yourself along the highway to chop them down when they're fleeing,

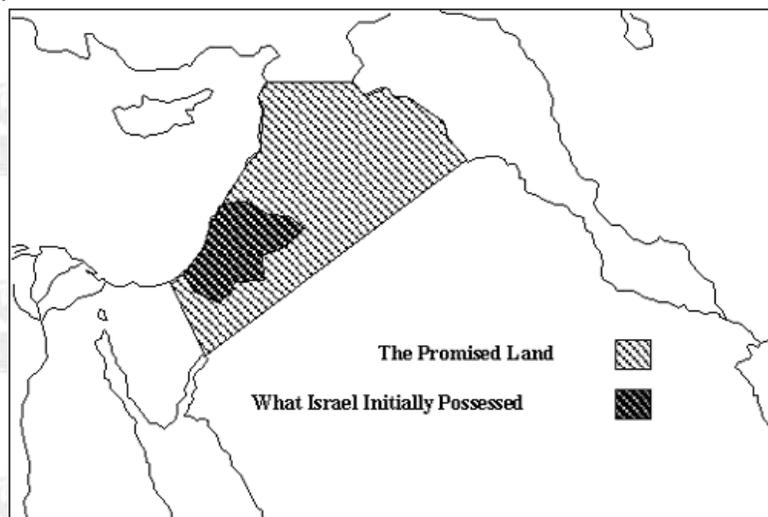
don't imprison survivors because if you do you are touching the apple of My eye."

### III. Nations Judged/Israel Saved (15-21)

Now for the last verses, this is the themes of judgment/salvation again but it's extended to all the nations. Edom is the chief perpetrator but by this time **all the nations** will have turned against Israel so we have judgment upon all the nations and Israel is saved, interesting parallel to Jer 30, but Israel will be saved. And keep in mind this is all for violation of Gen 12:3. If someone asks, "Why the tribulation?" here's a legitimate answer, violation by all nations of the principle of Gen 12:3. So, verse 15, "**For the day of the LORD**, that's a technical phrase for the future Tribulation, and it's the theme of Joel, the next of the Twelve we'll start next week. **For the day of the Lord draws near on all the nations. As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head.** Boom, Gen 12:3 and the measure of the judgment for each nation is equivalent to how they dealt with Israel. That's what we call *lex talionis*, or "law of retaliation" and it means "life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise, it's a measure for measure judgment. <sup>16</sup>**Because just as you drank on My holy mountain**, this is God's **holy mountain** because Jerusalem is His possession. He intends to re-install His presence there in the Shechinah Glory and in His Son, Jesus Christ who will reign on the Davidic throne. So, those drinking here refers to when the Antichrist goes up against Israel in the second half of the Tribulation and they **drank** in the sense that they killed the prophets and the saints of Israel and it gave them pleasure, it intoxicates them, the spilling of Jewish blood is a celebration for the nations. Finally we're getting rid of this tiny people who cause so many problems. **All the nations will drink continually.** This will go on for 3 ½ years as they dominate Jerusalem in the final years of the "times of the Gentiles." **They will drink and swallow And become as if they had never existed.** They are really drinking their own death cup. You know, this is drinking yourself death because that kind of treatment of Israel merits death. They are drinking the cup of God's wrath. Verse 17, "**But on Mount Zion there will be those who escape**, this is a Jewish remnant who will escape the sword of the nations, **And it will be holy.** That is, **Mount Zion** will once again be a holy place once these defilers are expelled. Then this site will become the resting place for the Millennial

Temple of Ezek 40-46. **And the house of Jacob will possess their possessions.** They are going to take back Jerusalem for themselves. They are going to disinherit the nations and inherit their rightful land possessions outlined in vv 19-20. So, this is the end of “the times of the Gentiles” and the initiation of the time of Israel. Verse 18, this is the final movement of the battle that started back in v 7 when Edom’s allies turned against her on the Mt Seir Range and Edom suffered heavy losses but not all, that was a set up for the final strike here by the **house of Jacob and Joseph, “Then the house of Jacob will be a fire And the house of Joseph a flame;** the point of bringing Joseph in is to indicate that the ten tribes from northern kingdom of Israel will be involved in this battle too. It will be both southern and northern kingdom. They will be like a fire, a flame, that’s a metaphor of course for their military prowess when they escape Jerusalem and head down to finish off **the house of Esau. But the house of Esau,** that’s the Edomites, **will be as stubble. And they will set them on fire and consume them,** not literal fire but literal annihilation of every last Edomite **So that there will be no survivor of the house of Esau,” For the LORD has spoken.** This is the sovereign will of YHWH. **Then,** verse 19, we go into Israel’s land possessions, so we have the Land branch of the Abrahamic Covenant being fulfilled. And every time you read one of these just know that a second regathering of Israel has occurred. This will be the regathering of Israel in belief which occurs after the Second Coming of Christ. So, right now we are watching the first regathering, the regathering of Israel in unbelief which sets the stage for the end-times, but after the Second Coming you have the regathering of Israel in belief so that only those Jews that have believed in the Messiahship of Jesus will enter the Millennial Kingdom. **Then those of the Negev,** that’s in the south, Jews in the south **will possess the mountain of Esau,** which is Trans-Jordan, south and east of the Dead Sea, so they will move east, we start getting into land divisions here for the Messianic Kingdom. **And those of the Shephelah the Philistine plain;** that’s present day Gaza strip. Those who lived in the Shephelah will move over to the Gaza strip. Today there are 1.5 million Arabs living in the Gaza and 98.7% of those are Sunni Muslims. **Also, possess the territory of Ephraim,** that is, they will also possess the Hill Country of Ephraim north of Jerusalem, **and the territory of Samaria,** farther north up closer to the lake of Galilee but not quite.

**And Benjamin will possess Gilead.** Gilead is Trans-Jordan so the Promised Land certainly extends across the Jordan River. It's often thought it is only west of the Jordan, that's not true, it's much larger. Verse 20, **And the exiles of this host of the sons of Israel, Who are among the Canaanites as far as Zarephath.** Zarephath is southern ancient Phoenicia, which is modern day Lebanon, this is where Elijah fled to during the 3 ½ year drought. He went there to a widows house and she provided for him and healed her son in 1 Kings 17:9ff. These will re-gather and receive their land in the Negev, southern Israel. **And the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad.** **Sepharad** is the most difficult location to identify. Some Jews think this is in Spain and refers to the Ashkenazi Jews. Other scholars think this refers to one of the seven churches in Revelation, Sardis (Rev 3:1-6). Whatever the precise identification these exiles **Will also possess the cities of the Negev** which is again in southern Israel. So, this is all part of the land distribution in the Millennium, it's a partial not a comprehensive picture but it will be total. Israel will have all her land for the first time ever. God is faithful to fulfill His promises. There is a lot of heated argument between evangelicals who claim Israel already received all of the Land Promises according to Joshua 21:43, therefore God is not obligated to give it to them again. "So the LORD gave Israel all the land which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they possessed it and lived in it." However, contextually it is clear that this statement is meant to be understood in a limited way, after the early conquest campaigns. There was still more land to conquer. Anyone who reads Judges 1 has to admit that they did not conquer all the territory and they did not drive all the foreign peoples out. That's the whole point of the chapter!



Numbers 34:1-15 give the boundaries of the Promised Land and this real estate has never been held by Israel, much less held forever as God guarantees in the Land Promise of Gen 17:8. And if God is faithful then He must fulfill this covenant promise lest what happened to the animals of the founding sacrifice happen to Him (Gen 15)!

Verse 21, **The deliverers will ascend Mount Zion.** Who are the **deliverers**? Clearly Israel are the delivered not the deliverers. But the alternative reading here *mushaim* is passive voice and would read “Those who are delivered **will ascend Mount Zion To judge the mountain of Esau.** Thus, YHWH is their deliverer and He will deliver the remnant of Israel that believed in His Messiahship and they will ascend **Mount Zion.** One of their functions is **To judge the mountain of Esau**, that is, they will rule Edom, Edom will not rule Israel. Edom is a part of Israel’s Promised Land. Edom has been exterminated for her treatment of Israel, Gen 12:3. And finally, **the kingdom will be the LORD’S.** This is the great zenith of human history, when Jesus Christ returns and sets up His kingdom, all the kingdoms of the earth having been demolished, Daniel’s stone of the Messiah has crushed the statue of Gentile kingdoms, the times of the Gentiles have come to a close and the time of the Messiah and Israel having begun, the fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant and the issuing in of the Theocratic, Davidic, Millennial, Messianic Kingdom of God where Jesus Christ will reign from Mount Zion as King of kings and Lord of lords. Obadiah appropriately closes with the name of the covenant making and covenant keeping name, YHWH. Jesus is indeed YHWH, very God of God, very light of light, same in essence, distinct in person, the Second Person of the Divine Trinity, our Savior and Lord and Israel’s Savior and Lord.

So, a challenge to anyone who replaces Israel with the Church is “What do you do with this? When did YHWH rule the kingdom? When was Israel rescued from all the nations and when did they ascend to Mt Zion? If Mt Zion is just heaven then why all the detail about sections of land and cities being possessed by Israel in the kingdom? Why the mentioning of Exiles among the Canaanites?” These are details in the text that can’t be watered down. While not comprehensive, they do give a picture of a millennial earth with land dispensed to the Jews and the Messiah ruling His kingdom. And isn’t it a stiff warning against anti-Semitism? Why say the Church has replaced Israel

So, now we've unlocked Obadiah. We've turned the key of the eternal Abrahamic Covenant and did you see that Obadiah just popped open? If you don't have that background it's impossible to understand why Edom and all the nations are being judged and Israel is saved and given all this land without sliding over the textual details. So, in conclusion, Obadiah is a warning against Anti-Semitism. It expounds the fact that God is sovereign over the cosmos including the nations and is a covenant making and keeping God. Edom is declared to be the great enemy of twin brother Jacob in a universal anti-Semitic campaign to exterminate Israel that escalates into a future last days judgment on all the nations coupled with the salvation of a Jewish remnant issuing in the Kingdom of God and her King, Jesus Christ.

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