

A Tour Through the Divine Library
(Obadiah)

I. General Introduction to Obadiah

-Title/Author: Obadiah, the prophet whose words it records (1:1a)

-Historical Background: The prophecy of Obadiah is a response to an act of Edomite aggression against Israel. Edomites: Gen. 25:20-26, 29-3; 36:1, 9; 1300 Years of Edomite Aggression: Gen. 25:22, 23; Deut. 23:7; 2 Sam. 8; 1 Kings 8, 9, 11, 14; 2 Chron. 20, 21, 25, 28; Ps. 137:1, 7; Ezek. 25:12-14; 35

-Date: 848-841 BC (vs. 10-16 with Kings 8 and 2 Chron. 21:1, 8, 16, 17. See also vs. 1-5 with Jer. 49:7a, 9, 14-16; Joel 3:18-21; Amos 1:6)

-Theme/Purpose: warning to Edom; encouragement to Israel

-Structure:

- I. Condemnation: God's Judgment of Edom and the Nations (vs. 1-16)
- II. Consolation: God's Restoration of Israel (vs. 17-21)

II. General Overview of Obadiah

-Edom's Punishment (vs. 1-9); Edom's Sins (vs. 10-14); God's Judgment of the Nations (vs. 15, 16); God's Restoration of Israel (vs. 17-21)

III. Prominent Themes in Obadiah

-Certain Judgment of God (vs. 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 15, 18); Justice of God (v. 15; see Job 34:11; Ps. 28:4; 62:12; Prov. 24:12; Jer. 17:10; Matt. 16:27; Luke 6:38; Rom. 2:5, 6; 1 Cor. 3:8; Rev. 2:23); Proper Treatment of God's People (Zech. 2:8; Matt. 25:40; Acts 9:4); God's Covenant Mercy on Israel

IV. Christ in Obadiah

-Anticipated as Judge of the Nations (vs. 15, 16; 2 Cor. 5:10); Deliverer of His People (v. 17); King of Kings and Lord of Lords (v. 21; Rev. 11:15)

V. Practical Lessons in Obadiah

- 1) God is a God of inflexible justice.
- 2) The time to repent is now.
- 3) God will vindicate His people.