

THE BOOK OF OBADIAH

Teacher: John M. Brown, Flatwoods church of Christ, Adult Bible Class, October 2003

INTRODUCTION

A. The Prophet: OBADIAH

1. His name means "servant of the Lord"
2. We know nothing much about him outside this book.

B. DATE: about 840 B.C.

C. THEME: Judgment against the nation of Edom for her pride in rejoicing over the misfortunes of Jerusalem.

1. The Edomites were the descendants of Esau, Jacob's twin brother; thus they were "cousins" of the Israelites, but were in constant conflict with them.
2. The adversity of the Edomites against Israel were numerous (see Numbers 14:14-20; 1 Samuel 14:47; 1 Kings 11:14-25; 2 Chronicles 20:22; 21:8).
3. During the fifth century, the Edomites were driven from their homeland by the Naboteans; Sela (or Petra) had been their capitol.
4. Edom's sins:
 - a. PRIDE
 - b. INDIFFERENCE
 - c. GLOATING OVER ANOTHER'S MISFORTUNE

I. EDOM'S DOOM, vv. 1-9

- A. God rises up in battle against Edom.
- B. Her pride of heart is her downfall; God will bring her down!
- C. Her downfall will be complete!

II. EDOM'S DENUNCIATION, vv. 10-14

- A. Obadiah predicts Edom will be "cut off for ever" (compare Ezekiel 25:12-14).
- B. Edom rejoiced over Israel's trouble; this, she should not have done!

III. EDOM'S DESTRUCTION, vv. 15-21

- A. Edom shall "reap" what she has sown.
- B. Her destruction will be complete (compare Isaiah 34:15-17).