## Discovering Obadiah: Lessons from the Smallest Prophetic Book



Explore the profound messages of Obadiah about pride, justice, and God's faithfulness in this insightful three-day Bible study.





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#### Introduction

The Book of Obadiah, though the shortest book in the Old Testament with only one chapter, delivers powerful and timeless messages that resonate with believers today. This prophetic book focuses on the judgment of Edom, a nation descended from Esau, and serves as a warning against pride and self-exaltation. Through Obadiah's concise yet impactful words, we gain valuable insights into God's justice, His sovereignty over nations, and His unwavering commitment to His people.

Why study Obadiah? Despite its brevity, Obadiah encapsulates themes critical to understanding God's perspective on human behavior, especially the consequences of arrogance and betrayal. The Edomites' hostility towards Israel and their prideful stance resulted in a divine judgment that serves as a vivid reminder of God's righteousness.

This study plan will guide you through three focused days, unpacking And applying these themes. You'll be invited to reflect deeply and consider how God's justice and mercy operate both in biblical times and our world today. Whether you are new to prophetic literature or seeking to deepen your understanding, this study will enrich your faith and challenge you to live humbly and justly.















#### Your Verse

Obadiah 1:1 - The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Sovereign LORD concerning Edom— We have heard a message from the LORD: An envoy was sent to the nations to say, 'Rise, let us go against her for battle!'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Genesis 25:30 But Esau answered, 'Do I not have the right to eat some of that red stew?'
- Psalm 75:6-7 No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt themselves. It is God who judges; he brings one down, he exalts another.







### Devotional: God's Sovereignty Over Nations and Pride

Understanding the setting of Obadiah is crucial. The prophecy centers around Edom, a nation descended from Esau, Jacob's brother. The Edomites' longstanding grudge and harmful actions towards Israel represent betrayal and enmity. Obadiah raises a stern warning: pride and violence against God's people will not go unpunished.

In verse 1, the LORD speaks through Obadiah as the ultimate sovereign. This proclamation comes as a messenger calls nations together for judgment. This highlights God's control over world events, affirming that every action and plan is ultimately subject to His authority.

Reflecting on Genesis 25:30 reveals the origin of the conflict — the choice of Esau to sell his birthright, representing a deeper spiritual parallel of rejecting God's blessing. The Psalm 75 passage reminds us *no matter how powerful human ambition and pride become, it is God alone who exalts or humbles.* Obadiah's message invites us to examine attitudes of pride in our own lives and to trust in God's just rule.







## Reflect and Apply

	What examples of pride or betrayal do you recognize in your community or personal life?
2.	How does knowing God is sovereign bring comfort or challenge to you?
3.	In what areas might you need to trust God's judgment rather than your own understanding?







## Journaling Prompts

1.	Write about a time when pride led to conflict around you.
2.	Reflect on how God has shown His sovereignty in your personal story.
3.	Identify areas in your life where humility is needed.







### Prayer for Today

**Lord,** thank You for reminding me today that You are the sovereign King over all nations and circumstances. Help me to keep my heart humble and dependent on You rather than on my own strength or pride. Teach me to trust Your justice when I see wrongdoing or conflict around me. May I rely on Your perfect judgment and extend grace to others as You have shown me. In Jesus' name, Amen.















#### Your Verse

Obadiah 1:15 - 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.

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Isaiah 59:18 According to what they have done, so will he repay; wrath to his attackers, repayment to his enemies.
- Romans 12:19 Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: 'It is mine to avenge; I will repay,' says the Lord.







#### Devotional: Trusting God's Just Judgment

#### Obadiah 1:15

Here, the Edomites' harmful actions against Israel are judged; they cannot escape the consequences of their violence and pride. This illustrates a universal spiritual truth—that God's justice is inevitable and impartial. No nation or person can evade accountability.

Isaiah 59:18 echoes this truth, emphasizing that God repays according to deeds. Likewise, Romans 12:19 encourages believers to refrain from personal retaliation, reminding us that vengeance belongs to God alone. This teaches both trust in God's timing and justice as well as the call to live peacefully without seeking our own retribution.

Reflecting on these passages prompts us to examine how we deal with injustice personally or societally. Are we impulsive in seeking revenge, or are we patient and confident in God's righteous plan? Obadiah's message challenges us to leave judgment in God's hands and to pursue peace and justice humbly.







## Reflect and Apply

1.	How do you respond when you see injustice around you?
2.	What hindrances do you face in trusting God with vengeance?
3.	How can you demonstrate faith in God's timing for justice in your life?







## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Journal about a situation where you struggled with forgiving someone.
2.	Write prayers surrendering your desire for revenge to God.
3.	Reflect on Biblical examples of God's justice that give you hope.







### Prayer for Today

Gracious Father, help me to release all desires for revenge and to trust fully in Your perfect justice. When I am wronged or witness unfairness, remind me that You are the ultimate Judge who sees all and will act at the right time. Strengthen me to walk in peace and to extend grace rather than hold onto bitterness. Thank You for Your righteousness and faithfulness. In Jesus' name, Amen.







## Day 3: The Promise of Restoration and Hope









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#### Your Verse

Obadiah 1:17 – But on Mount Zion will be deliverance; it will be holy, and Jacob will possess his inheritance.

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Joel 3:21 Obadiah's lands will be possessed by the LORD; the house of Jacob will be a fire, the house of Joseph a flame.
- Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.







Day 3: The Promise of Restoration and Hope

### Devotional: Hope in God's Restoration Promise

Amidst pronouncements of judgment, Obadiah ends with a message of hope and restoration. Verse 17 speaks of deliverance on Mount Zion, symbolizing God's people being restored and reclaiming their inheritance.

This promise reminds us that God's judgment is not the end but a necessary step toward divine restoration. The house of Jacob will ultimately be secured and blessed. Similarly, Joel 3:21 foretells God's possession of the land for His people, reinforcing the hope found in His faithfulness.

Romans 8:28 assures believers that even in trials and judgment, God is working for good. This encourages us to trust His plans and hold onto hope—knowing that God's faithfulness endures and He redeems all things for His glory and our ultimate good.

Reflection on this passage invites us to look beyond present difficulties and see God's ultimate purpose of restoration, peace, and blessing for those who remain faithful.







Day 3: The Promise of Restoration and Hope

## Reflect and Apply

1.	Where do you see evidence of God's restoration in your life or community?
2.	How does hope in God's promises influence your daily walk?
3.	What steps can you take to embrace God's restoration amid trials?







Day 3: The Promise of Restoration and Hope

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write how God has brought restoration after challenges in your life.
2.	Describe what 'inheritance' in God's kingdom means to you personally.
3.	Reflect on your hopes for the future based on God's promises.







Day 3: The Promise of Restoration and Hope

### Prayer for Today

Heavenly Father, thank You for the hope of restoration through Your promises. When I face hardships, help me to fix my eyes on Your deliverance and the inheritance You have prepared for Your people. Strengthen my faith to trust that You are working all things for good. Renew my spirit with Your peace and assurance that restoration is coming. May I live with confident hope every day. In Jesus' name, Amen.







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