

# OBADIAH

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**1. TITLES:**

- A. Obadiah = servant of the Lord, worshipper of Jehovah
- B. The Book of Retribution

**2. AUTHOR:**

Written by Obadiah, the prophet of Divine Retribution, who prophesied against Edom.

**3. DATE:**

- A. Obadiah's ministry covered a period of about 8 years (848-840 B.C.), during the reign of Jehoram of Judah. (Some place Obadiah's ministry during or after the Babylonian Captivity.)
- B. Probably written between 848 and 840 B.C.

**4. KEY WORDS:**

- A. Day - 12
- B. Esau, Edom - 9
- C. Possess (ions) - 7

**Key Phrase:**

- A. "cut off" - 3

**5. KEY VERSES: 4, 15**

**6. PURPOSE:**

- A. To pronounce doom, destruction, and desolation on Esau/Edom.
- B. To confirm the promises of the deliverance and restoration of Jacob/Israel both historically and prophetically.

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## 7. MESSAGE:

- A. "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18).
- B. "As a man soweth so shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7-9).

## 8. OUTLINE:

- I. Esau/Edom ..... Vs. 1-16
  - A. Destruction Decided ..... Vs. 1-9
  - B. Sins Denounced ..... Vs. 10-14
  - C. Judgments Declared ..... Vs. 15-16
- II. Jacob/Israel ..... Vs. 17-21  
Deliverance and Restoration

## 9. SUMMARY:

The book of Obadiah shows The Law of Divine Retribution.

“as thou hast done ... so it shall be done unto thee” (v. 15)

- Edom’s treachery
  - Edom to perish through treachery (v. 11)
- Edom robbed Judah (v. 13)
  - Edom to be robbed (v. 5,6)
- Edom lifted sword in violence (v. 10)
  - Edom to have sword in violence (v. 9)
- Edom sought utter destruction of Judah (v. 12-14)
  - Edom to have utter destruction (v. 9, 10, 18)

Though Judah was promised restoration after punishment, Edom was given no promise of restoration. The background and key to this book is to be found in the relationship of these two nations and their fathers, Esau and Jacob.

NOTE: There are several cross references between Obadiah and Amos.

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## 10. CHRIST SEEN:

Christ is seen as the Servant (Philippians 2:7) and Worshipper (Hebrews 2:12) of Jehovah, and the Executor of Divine Retribution (2 Thessalonians 1:6-10).