



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Scripture: Obadiah

TITLE: Obadiah-Justice and Judgment is Coming!

Have you ever held a grudge against someone? Or have you ever had someone hold a grudge against you for a long time? One of the effects of sin in our hearts is that it's hard to forgive and forget what people have done against us.

In the book of Obadiah, we can see the dangers of holding a grudge. The basics of what you need to know for the book of Obadiah is this, these writings come from the prophet Obadiah who's speaking on behalf of God telling the nation of Edom that God's judgment is coming against them.

This book takes place between 848 and 841 B.C. and the main people mentioned would include the prophet Obadiah himself and the nation of Edom.

To understand Edom we have to go all the way back to two brothers who held a grudge, Jacob and Esau. From this story in the Old Testament, we know that God chose to bless Jacob and not Esau. Jacob stole Esau's birthright, and for a long time, Esau held a grudge. The nation of Israel is the descendants of Jacob, and the nation of Edom is the descendants of Esau. Sadly, the same grudge that existed between these brothers still existed among these nations in the time of the Old Testament. So, the Edomites hated God's chosen people, the Israelites. As the Israelites experienced God's judgment for their sin when the nation of Babylon came and took over Jerusalem, the Edomites celebrated and even took advantage of this horrible time for the Israelites.

So, with all of that in mind, we turn to the book of Obadiah and we see that God is telling the nation of Edom that judgment is coming because of what they've done against His chosen people the Israelites.

A verse that helps us understand the heart of Obadiah is Obadiah 1:15 (ESV) [“For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations. As you have done, it shall be done to you; your deeds shall return on your own head.”](#)

From this we see that the justice and judgment of God are real. We see that God is faithful to protect and defend His chosen people. We can also see that the judgment of God is coming upon all nations, not just Edom. In many ways, I believe Edom is a picture of all humanity which has been broken by sin. The reality is that God's judgment is coming against all people who turn against God in sin.

But we can also see Jesus in the book of Obadiah through the promise of hope given at the end of the book. Amid God's justice and judgment, He promises to bring a New Jerusalem that will bless His people and all nations, which I believe points to the eternal Kingdom of God brought through the life death and resurrection of Jesus.

So here are a couple of takeaways from the book of Obadiah. If you are a believer and you're experiencing suffering and trials, know that God is faithful and He will right every wrong and bring justice one day. And if you're watching this video and you have not accepted Jesus as your savior can I plead with you that the judgment of God is coming against sin. But He's also provided a way out through the sacrifice of Jesus. If we trust Jesus as our Savior and believe that He died for our sins and rose again to defeat death, we don't have to fear the judgment of God. He won't hold a grudge against our sin, but promises to forget our sin forever, and we can look forward to His eternal kingdom that will never end.

So as we read the book of Obadiah, look to the cross of Jesus, and remember how the justice of God was poured out on His own son, and the grace of God is now extended to all nations for ANYONE who trusts in Christ!