

## **Obadiah-by Nathan White**

Obadiah is a short book and is unusual in that it is a prophetic book written not against Israel or Judah, but against Edom. Edom was the nation that descended from Jacob's brother, Esau. The primary basis for Edom's judgment seems to be their refusal to help the people of Judah during the Babylonian siege. Edom was built in a mountainous area, making them especially difficult to attack. Because of their location, Edom would have been an especially beneficial place for Judean refugees to hide. However, Edom would not protect the fleeing Judeans. In fact, it seems some of the Edomites were actively handing Judeans over to Babylon (v. 14). The day of judgment is coming, not only for Edom, but for all nations (v. 15). God will ultimately destroy those who have rejoiced in his people's pain. The prophecy ends with a promise that one day, God's people will not only possess their own land, but all the earth (v. 19-21). This final promise finds its fulfillment in Christ, who will crush his enemies and reign for eternity.

### **-Reflecting on Obadiah-**

Before moving on to our next book of the Bible, take some time today to reflect on what we've read in Obadiah. Perhaps re-visit a favorite chapter or an especially meaningful passage. Or read the beginning chapter(s) again, now that you've read the whole. Or go back to a part of the book that struck you as curious and see if it makes more sense now. Or speed-read the whole thing again, seeking to reinforce its main themes. Or... perhaps you need a catch-up day to finish Obadiah before we move forward?

*"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you." Psalm 119.11*