



## Old Testament Outlines: Obadiah by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

### **Obadiah = Devoted to Jehovah**                      **[God Is Penetrating]** **Blueprint For Redemption**

#### **I. Edom's Exclusion**    **Obadiah 1-16**

##### **A. For Arrogance**    **vs 1-9**

1. Vision against Edom from God **v. 1**
2. Vista about Edom shrunk **vs 2-7**
  - a. Become small **v. 2**
  - b. Brought low **v. 3-7**
    - (1 by dwelling place **v. 3-4**)
    - (2 by criminals **v. 5**)
    - (3 by allies **v. 6-7**)
3. Viciousness among Edom **vs 8-9**
  - a. Wisdom and understanding destroyed **v. 8**
  - b. Mighty men dismayed **v. 9a**
  - c. Everyone slaughtered **v. 9b**

##### **B. For Abhorrence toward Israel**    **vs10-15**

1. Violent intentions **v. 10**
2. Distancing measured **v. 11**
3. Participation observed **vs 12-14**
  - a. Gloated **v. 12a**
  - b. Rejoiced **v. 12b**
  - c. Bragged **v. 12c**
  - d. Shared **v. 13a**
    - (1 Gloated **v. 13b**)
    - (2 Stolen **v. 13c**)
  - e. Sealed off **v. 14a**
  - f. Dispensed **v. 14b**
4. Other prophets who mention their attitude toward Jacob:
  - a. **Joel 3:19**
  - b. **Amos 1:11**
  - c. **Isaiah 34:5-17**

- d. Jeremiah in **Lamentations 4:21-22**
- e. **Ezekiel 25:12; 35:5**

**C. For Autocracy toward God vs 15-16**

- 1. Judgment is without mercy  
to the merciless **v. 15**                      **Matthew 6:14-15; 7:1-5;**  
**(Don't "Play God")**                              **James 2:13**
- 2. Irrevocable Irreverence **v. 16 Cf Joel 3:17**  
**(Don't "Play With God")**

**II. Israel's Inclusion Obadiah 17-21**

- A. Divergent Denouement **vs 17-18**
  - 1. House of Jacob badly burned **vs 17-18a**                      **Luke 1:33**
  - 2. House of Esau burned up v. 18b
- B. Done Deal **vs 19-20**                      **Numbers 24:15-24; Matthew 2:1-12**
- C. Deliverers Decided **v. 21**

## Obadiah's Obsessions:

⇒ Esau dwelt in Edom (**Genesis 36:8**). Edom means "Red" (**Genesis 25:30**). The struggle between him and Jacob (or "Israel," **Genesis 35:10**) began in the womb and continued throughout the Old Testament in their descendants, the Edomites and the Israelites (**Genesis 25:19-28**)!

⇒ Esau becomes the "evil twin" whose historical characteristics are:

### 1. "Pride" -

- (a) The nations (Israel and Edom) first clashed when Israel was refused permission to pass through on their way to the Promised Land (**Numbers 20:14-17**), causing discouragement among the Israelites (**Numbers 21:4-20**).
- (b) Israel was forbidden to covet Edom's land (**Deuteronomy 2:5**) nor to abhor Edomites for they were brothers (**Deuteronomy 23:7**).
- (c) Saul took Edom's land (**1 Samuel 14:47-48**) and David the Edomites (**2 Samuel 8:14**), thus fulfilling Balaam's prophecy (**Numbers 24:17-18**).
- (d) An enemy of Solomon was an Edomite (**1 Kings 11:14**).
- (e) Later, Edom rebelled from Judah and anointed their own king (**2 Kings 8:20**).
- (f) They captured Judah when it was vulnerable to attack (**2 Chronicles 28:17**) and had gloated over Jerusalem's other defeats (**Lamentations 4:21-22; Psalm 137:7**).
- (g) Edomites were known as **Idumeans** (**Greek** for "**Edom**") when Nabataeans pushed them from Petra and they settled south of Judah, about 300 B.C. From them came the Herods, whose antagonism against the "king of the Jews" began immediately (**Matthew 2:1-23**) and continued throughout the **Book of Acts**. And,

### 2. "Profanity"-

- (a) He didn't take seriously his birthright as firstborn and sold it to Jacob for bread and lentils (**Genesis 25:29-34**) only to discover his horrible mistake too late to correct (**Genesis 27:1-45**) for forever to be known as a "profane person" (**Hebrews 12:14-17**).
- (b) His wives were fleshly efforts to bring him personal glory (**Genesis 26:34-35; 28:8-9**).
- (c) There is only one reference to Edom's gods and that to condemn them (**2 Chronicles 25:14-15, 20**).

**3. In these, Esau (Edom) represents the “dark side” of every human that causes constant conflict in right-doing.  
(Cf 1 John 2:15-17; 3:24-4:6; Romans 7:5-25)**

- ⇒ If Obadiah is the first of these writing prophets, then the phrase “the day of the LORD” is first used in **Obadiah 15**.
- ⇒ **Obadiah** is the shortest Old Testament book with 21 verses.
- ⇒ The author is one of many “Obadiah’s” in the Old Testament and thus cannot be identified with certainty. Internal evidences appear to fit the date of 845 B.C. during the reign of Jehoram (**2 Chronicles 21:1-20**).  
**Cf Jeremiah 49:7-22; Psalm 137:7**