

# A LOOK AT THE BOOK OBADIAH

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## **AUTHOR, DATE, AND BACKGROUND**

Of the person, date and background of Obadiah, little is known.

The book was written in response to an attack against Jerusalem in which the Edomites participated. Four such occurrences are known.

Since the Holy Spirit did not reveal more concerning the date or occasion, perhaps one should not be conjectured either.

## **PURPOSE AND THEME**

The book announces the doom of Edom and ultimate triumph of Israel.

The cause of judgment was its attack against Israel.

As descendants of Esau, Edom should have known better (Gen. 12:3; 27:29).

They should have assisted Israel.

Rather than assist Israel, they joined her attackers, and became subject to God's judgment.

### **Purpose of the messages**

- To condemn Edom
- To warn them of the danger
- To convince them to stop persecuting Israel

Obadiah serves as a warning to Edom, or any nation, that would attack God's people.

God will defend His people and destroy those who attack them.

### **Purpose of the book**

- To inspire confidence among God's people—He hasn't abandoned them.

He will remain faithful to them and defend them against the nations, even when they are in rebellion against Him.

They will be restored and blessed.

### **Message of the book**

- In spite of their sin, God hasn't abandoned His people.
- Those who bless Israel will be blessed; those who curse them will be cursed.
- Condemnation of Edom and the final triumph of Israel.

God will defend His people and destroy their enemies, even though they are walking in sin.

***What lessons should we learn from the study of this book?***

