

OBADIAH - "SERVANT OF YAHWEH"

Audience: Judah & the Nations

Historical Setting:

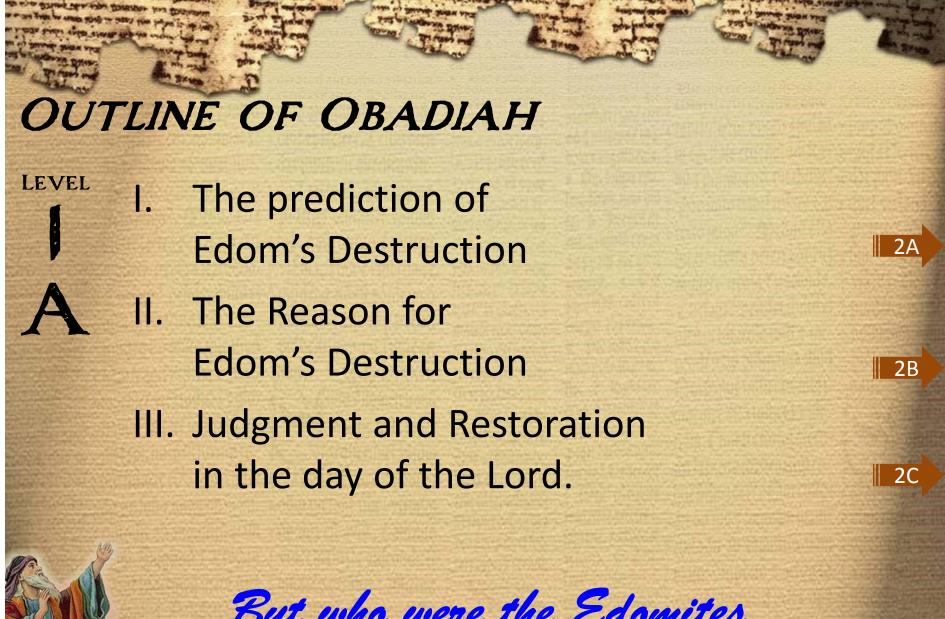
Obadiah records another chapter in the long story of enmity which existed between the descendants of Esau and Jacob (Gen. 25:29-34, Num. 20:14-21, 1 Sam. 14:47, Psa. 137:7). After Edom revolted against Judah and set up their own king (2 Chron. 21:8-10), Judah was invaded by the Philistines and Arabs (2 Chron. 21:16-17). The Edomites applauded this invasion, persecuting their Israelite kinsmen instead of protecting them.

Purpose

The book of Obadiah is designed to show God's faithfulness to Israel and illustrate His sovereignty over the nations. Obadiah also intends his prophecy to comfort Judah through God's promise of future restoration.

Theology

Obadiah teaches an important lesson concerning divine retribution. Verse 15 states this concisely, "As you have done, it will be done to you" (cf. Rom. 2:5-6). The book also instructs concerning the "Day of the Lord" which will be characterized both by judgment and blessing (vv. 15-21).





I. THE PREDICTION OF EDOM'S DESTRUCTION

LEVEL

2

A. Superscription (1a)

B. Nations arrayed against Edom (1b-2)

C. Coming judgment on Edom's Pride (3-4)

D. Description of Edom's destruction



II. THE REASON FOR EDOM'S DESTRUCTION

LEVEL

2

A. Edom's violence against Jacob (10)

B. Edom's attack instead of assistance (11)

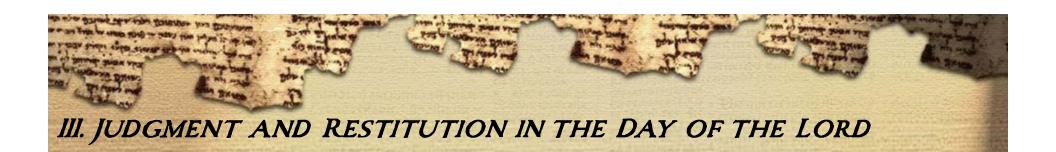
B C. Obadiah shout's (12-14)

Do Not

Do Not

Do Not





LEVEL

2 C A. Retribution on the nations (15-16)

B. Preservation of Israel's remnant (17)

C. Destruction of Esau (18)

D. Restoration of Israel's Land (19-20)

E. Inception of the Messianic Kingdom

