

What can we learn from Obadiah?

There are several small books in the bible that God placed there for our learning and our admonition. Even this small Old Testament book of prophecy has great lessons for us today.

1. What issue was facing the people of God as recorded in the book of Obadiah?

Obadiah 1:1
Obadiah **1:3-4**

Obadiah **1:10-14**
Genesis **36:1-9**

The nation of Edom, the brother of Jacob/Israel was not only complicit in the destruction of Jerusalem, they actually assisted the Babylonians in its destruction. The nation called Edom was identified as being prideful which led to their acts against Jerusalem.

2. What was God saying was going to be the solution?

Obadiah **1:1-2**
Obadiah **1:15-16**

Obadiah **1:7-9**
Obadiah **1:17-18**

God promised two separate actions to deal with Edom's pursuit of the destruction of Jerusalem. First, God promised to send the nations of the world against the nation of Edom to judge the nation for its hostility against the people of God. Secondly, God was going to bless and deliver Jerusalem from her oppressors and set up Jerusalem to be prosperous once again..

3. What does the Christian need to be careful of regarding the book of Obadiah?

Romans **11:16-23**
1 Corinthians **5:1-6**

Proverbs **24:17-18**

The most direct lesson for Christians is that we not become high minded or self righteous against other people, especially those from Jewish ancestry. Christians need to also learn that if an enemy of the Christian (personally or globally) is receiving what is believed some sort of judgment from God for their misdeeds, we should not rejoice in the judgment they are receiving so that to some degree we do not see God turn His hand of judgment against the Christian. All of us will encounter professing Christians who are struggling with sin. We need to be careful that we neither condemn our struggling brother for his sinfulness nor do we live in ignorance of his condition. While we have been called to identify sin, we have not been called to pronounce God's condemnation against anyone for their sinfulness.

4. What should the Christian do instead?

Galatians **6:1-3**
2 Corinthians **2:4-8**

Ephesians **4:31-32**
Matthew **5:43-48**

If a brother sins, we are called to identify his sin, not for the sake of gossip and condemnation but for the sake of restoration and love. If the brother repents of his sins, we need to restore loving fellowship with forgiveness to the sinning brother, even as Christ has forgiven our own sinful actions toward Him..