# Obadiah

Obadiah is a record of the prophecy by Prophet Obadiah, made in the late 7th century BCE.

It was spoken against the descendants of IsaAc’s son Esau (known as the Edomites). It foretold their coming destruction for the bad things that they did to the Kingdom of Judah while it was being destroyed by the Babylonians.

*Most of this book is poetry*

Something that only a Bible translator would notice is when words are in the form of Hebrew poetry. There’s a definite cadence that can be seen in the original language. Therefore, because this is the chosen style of God, we’ve tried to recreate it as it was originally intended: in poetic verse.

*Why use poetry?*

Poetry must conform to a certain rhythm and style. These act as memory aids, helping you to recall the words, making it easier for messages to be spread via the most common communication method of the time: song.

### Obadiah

## Chapter 1

1**This is the vision of ObadiAh**.

Jehovah God spoke this against Edom.

I heard this report from Jehovah, and it’s a summary of what He sent to the nations:

 *‘{Look!} Arise against her in battle!*

 2*‘Among the nations, I’ve left you just few,*
 *And upon you, I’ve brought much disgrace.*
 3*For, you’ve made your hearts proud*
 *By camping in cracks in high rocks;*
 *And you’ve said in your hearts:*

 ‘From here, who can drag us down to the ground?’

 4*‘But if you could fly as high as an eagle*
 *And put your nest up in the stars...*
 *From there, I’d lead you back down,’* says Jehovah.

 5*‘Now if thieves were to enter among you,*
 *Or robbers were to come during the night;*
 *[How many things] would you lose?*
 *Wouldn’t they take just the things [that they want]?*
 *And if those who [steal] grapes came among you,*
 *Wouldn’t they leave you a gleaning?*

 6*‘But, there’ll come those who’ll search Esau through*
 *And take even the things that you’ve hidden away.*
 7*Then, to your borders, they’ll drive you,*
 *Where your allies will fight against you and win…*
 *Yes, men you’re at peace with*
 *Will then rise up against you,*
 *And they won’t understand why they did this.*

 8*‘So, in that day,’* says Jehovah,
 *‘I’ll destroy all of Edom’s wise men.*
 *And thereafter, in the mountains of Esau,*
 *Understanding will be gone from the land.*

 9*‘For they’ll frighten your Temanite warriors;*
 *And then, from the mountains of Esau,*
 *Every man will be carried away.*

 10*‘Because you’ve been so defiant*
 *And brought slaughter to Jacob, your brother;*
 *With shame, you’ll be covered,*
 *And throughout ages thereafter, you’ll be gone.*

 11*‘For, from the day that you faced and opposed them*
 *To the day that strangers captured their army*
 *And foreigners entered their gates,*
 *Who then cast lots for JeruSalem’s spoils,*
 *You were considered to be one of them.*

 12*‘So you shouldn’t have [sneered at] your brothers*
 *On the day that those strangers arrived…*
 *You shouldn’t have rejoiced at their downfall,*
 *And [approved of the killing] of Judah’s sons.*

 *‘You shouldn’t have [laughed] in the day of their pain,*
 13*And you shouldn’t have entered their gates*
 *On that day of their misery!*

 *‘Especially so, you should never have looked*
 *Upon them in joy at their ruin.*
 *Nor should you have joined to attack them*
 *In the day that they were destroyed.*

 14*‘In their mountain passes, you shouldn’t have stood*
 *To destroy those who tried to escape…*
 *No, you shouldn’t have locked up those fleeing*
 *In their day of affliction.*

 15*‘But now, the Day of the Lord has arrived*
 *Upon all those nations [that did this].*
 *So, all of the [bad] that you did to them*
 *Is what they’ll now do to you…*
 *What you did will come upon your own heads!*

 16*‘So, as you drank wine on My Holy Mountain,*
 *The nations will drink wine from you…*
 *Yes, they’ll swallow you down,*
 *And it’ll be like you never existed.*

 17*‘But salvation will come to Mount Zion,*
 *And My Holy Place will stand there again.*
 *Then the house of Jacob will inherit*
 *All those who’ve inherited them!*

 18*‘Like the fire that came upon Jacob’s house*
 *And the flames that came upon JoSeph…*
 *Like stubble, they’ll burn the house of Esau,*
 *Yes among them, the fire will burn and consume,*
 *And there’ll be no wheat harvest in Esau!*
 *For I, Jehovah, have spoken.*

 19*‘At that time, the Mountains of Esau*
 *Will be owned by those in the Negev.*
 *And those who live in the Philistine ShepheLa*
 *Will inherit Ephraim’s mountains,*
 *Along with Samaria and BenJamin’s plains,*
 *And all of GileAd’s land.*

 20*‘For the sons of IsraEl who’ll then return*
 *Will inherit all of your land*
 *From CanaAn, all the way to ZarEphath.*
 *And those who return to JeruSalem*
 *Will inherit the Negev to EphRatha.*

 21*‘So the survivors [who return to] Mount Zion*
 *Will take vengeance on the mountains of Esau,*
 *And then your kingdom will belong to Jehovah!’*