

# A Visitor's Guide to the Old Testament

## A Quick Discussion Guide on the Book of Obadiah

1. The sibling rivalry that you read about between Jacob and Esau (Genesis 25ff), simmered for centuries between the nations of Israel (Jacob's other name) and Edom (Esau's other name). What can we learn from the example of Jacob/Israel and Esau/Edom about the challenges within family relationships?

What does Obadiah have to say about God's attitude toward the tensions within families between those who cling to God's promises and those who deny them?

2. Obadiah 18 seems harsh, "There will be no survivors from the house of Esau...". How do Amos 9:12 and Acts 15:17 help us understand that what Obadiah says is not "absolute"?

Why is it important to remember that God always spares a remnant?

3. What actions and attitudes did Edom's pride lead her to pursue against Judah?

How does pride manifest itself in today's world? For whom is pride a uniquely inviting sin?

4. Obadiah 17 and 21 both use the word "deliverance/deliverer". Why is "deliverance" vital? To whom is Obadiah referring in these verses?

Who can fulfill that role today... and how can they do it?

5. Obadiah follows a familiar rhythm: a warning to a particular people followed with a warning to the nations (world) and ending with the ray of hope in God's restoration of the remnant scattered throughout the nations. Why is this an important pattern to recognize still today?

Where are YOU in this pattern?

6. Write your memory passage below: