

## "A New Year's Message for Edom"

*Sermon Notes*

**The vision of Obadiah was a message of judgment from the God of Israel upon the people of Edom about 2600 years ago. But it was written down for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.**

*In today's reading, we can find hope and encouragement by applying three timeless principles that undergird the Lord's thundering judgment upon the Edomites:*

The Principle of fruit: What you plant determines what you will harvest (Obadiah 1:1-9)

The Principle of family: God does not take obligation to family as a passing thing, but something that persists far beyond human memory (Obadiah 1:10-14)

The Principle of fidelity: God will be faithful to His promises, even when it seems utterly impossible (Obadiah 1:15-21)

## **Community Group Study Guide**

For the Week of December 31st - January 6th

### ***Context***

1. The Book of Obadiah tells us nothing about the author nor does it identify the time frame in which he wrote. Do you think he could have been the Obadiah who served King Ahab of Israel (1 Kings 18)?
2. Edom is condemned for assisting an invading army in this passage. Who were the invaders? (Ps 137:7-8; Jer 27:1-7).
3. What was the relationship between Edom and Israel? (Gen 25:19-34; Num 20:14-21; Deut 2:1-8; 1 Sam 14:47; 2 Sam 8:11-14; 1 Chron 18:11)

### ***Observation***

5. What do we learn about the Edomites from verses 1-8? What were they like? What made them feel secure?
6. Why in particular is this prophecy written to the Edomites and not to Judah's other neighbors? (Obad 1:10-11)

### ***Meaning***

7. Does this passage offer any hope for Edom? (See Obadiah 1:17 and Mark 3:7-8)
8. Has this prophecy come to pass or is it yet to come?

### ***Application***

11. What does the fate of the Edomites have to do with us? How are we like them?
12. Is our relationship with Israel in any way similar to the relationship between Edom and Israel? (See Rom 11:11-24)
13. Do you think this passage has any applicability to the current turmoil in the Middle East?