

# Heavy Duty

## Preparation for Sunday, April 28, 2013 Obadiah: Message of Action

### Monday - Tuesday

#### 1. A Nation's Attitude – Read Obadiah 1-4

- Describe how you think the Edomites felt prior to this prophecy.
- Do you know people who seem to think they can do no wrong? How is their attitude similar to that of the way you described the Edomites?
- What causes a person to think that they are above another person?
- After God said that He would make Edom insignificant among the nations, what else did He tell them?
- Have you ever said you despised someone? Do you think you said it in context of how it was used in this verse? Why or why not?
- What do you think is a presumptuous heart?
- What is the harm in thinking that you can't be brought down?
- In what ways do you think our country might resemble Edom's attitude?
- Do you think that Christians can have any impact on our nation's attitude? How?
- What connection do you see between Esau's personality and that of the Edomites?
- How had Judah been treated by Edom in the past?
- Why do you think Obadiah's prophecy was included in the Scripture?
- Do you think that God's message through Obadiah still has relevance today?
- Thinking about your own life, how could you apply this prophecy?
- On a grand scale, how would you apply this prophecy to our nation?

### Wednesday - Thursday

#### 2. A Nation's Failure to Act – Read Obadiah 10-15

- Why did God say that Edom would be covered with shame and be destroyed?
- Imagine you were making a movie of the events in this passage. Describe how you would "stage" verse 11.
- What is significant about the fact that Edom harassed and did evil to its brother Jacob?
- What were the "do not" statements that God used with Edom?
- What did God promise would be Edom's consequences?
- How do you think you would react if God told you that you were going to have the same thing happen to you that you have done to others?
- How do you feel like God was working in Obadiah's prophecy?
- In the other Scripture passages you've read, how did you understand the phrase "Day of the Lord"?
- Do you think every day, including today, is the "Day of the Lord?" In what way?
- Do you believe that God is still working in the world today?
- How can you trust that God will not stand by and watch people be taken advantage of?

## Friday - Saturday

### 3. A Nation's Hope – Read Obadiah 17-18,21

- Remember from the first lesson point that Edom believed it was invincible because it was nestled high in the mountains. So do you think it is significant that Obadiah talked about Mount Zion twice (verses 17 and 21)?
- Obadiah did not say that the house of Jacob would be ON fire, but that they would BE a blazing fire. What's the difference? How is fire used symbolically in this context?
- By contrast to the blazing fire and burning flame that the houses of Jacob and Joseph will be, what will the house of Esau be?
- How many survivors of the house of Esau will there be?
- What does it mean that “Saviors”—plural—“will ascend Mount Zion”?

### Additional Reading for this Week:

1. Edom – Its Land and People
2. The Day of the Lord
3. The Life Situation of Obadiah