

“VOICES – THE MINOR PROPHETS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT”
OBADIAH: WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND SEPTEMBER 16, 2018

In the Bible, prophets were MESSENGERS of God

“The Bible asserts that God prepared his prophets for a very specific ministry. They brought the divine word to people who desperately needed to hear it.” Bill T. Arnold

The Essence of Their Message

- A call to **REPENTANCE** = move away from sin
- A promise of **SALVATION** = made right with God, for those

“This is the vision that the Sovereign Lord revealed to Obadiah concerning the land of Edom.” Obadiah 1:1, NLT

The burning question... Why is Obadiah here?

→ “This is the **Word of God** for the **People of God**”

1. God cares about how we treat **OTHERS** and He cares about how **WE'RE** treated

“Because of the violence you did to your close relatives in Israel, you will be filled with shame and destroyed forever. When they were invaded, you stood aloof, refusing to help them. Foreign invaders carried off their wealth and cast lots to divide up Jerusalem, but you acted like one of Israel's enemies. You should not have gloated when they exiled your relatives to distant lands. You should not have rejoiced when the people of Judah suffered such misfortune. You should not have spoken arrogantly in that terrible time of trouble. You should not have plundered the land of Israel when they were suffering such calamity. You should not have gloated over their destruction when they were suffering such calamity. You should not have seized their wealth when they were suffering such calamity. You should not have stood at the crossroads, killing those who tried to escape. You should not have captured the survivors and handed them over in their terrible time of trouble.” Obadiah 10-14, NLT

“If you love your neighbor, you will fulfill the requirements of God's law.” Romans 13:8, NLT

2. God wants us to know that **PRIDE** is our enemy

“Pride of heart is the attitude of a life that declares its ability to live without God.” Dr. J. Vernon McGee

“The LORD says to Edom, ‘I will cut you down to size among the nations; you will be greatly despised. You have been deceived by your own pride because you live in a rock fortress and make your home high in the mountains. ‘Who can ever reach us way up here?’ you ask boastfully. But even if you soar as high as eagles and build your nest among the stars, I will bring you crashing down,’ says the LORD.” Obadiah 2-4, NLT

“Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.” Proverbs 16:18, NLT

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” James 4:6b, NLT

a. Pride distorts our **RELATIONSHIPS**

→ Pride affects how we see ourselves, others, and God

→ Pride says to God, **I GOT THIS**

→ Pride fosters a critical **SPIRIT**

b. It distorts our **PERSPECTIVE**

→ Pride gets in the way of our **DISCERNMENT**

→ Pride affects **WHO** and **WHAT** we listen to

→ Pride blurs our **VISION**

3. God has a hard word of **JUDGMENT**

“The day is near when I, the LORD, will judge all godless nations! As you have done to Israel, so it will be done to you. All your evil deeds will fall back on your own heads. Just as you swallowed up my people on my holy mountain, so you and the surrounding nations will swallow the punishment I pour out on you. Yes, all you nations will drink and stagger and disappear from history.” Obadiah 15-16

→ We are **ACCOUNTABLE**

→ **INDIFFERENCE** is a deadly sin

→ No one gets a **FREE PASS**

4. Obadiah is a prophecy of **HOPE**

“The people of Israel will come back to reclaim their inheritance... And the LORD himself will be king!” Obadiah 17-21

→ Don't **GIVE UP!**

→ God always has the **FINAL WORD!**