



WEEK 4

OBADIAH

VIDEO RECAP

Small Group starter videos can be found on the Christ Church website under small group resources.

SERMON RECAP

Obadiah was written (i.e. spoken) at a time when the people of faith were having a hard time believing in God. Entering their story and hearing the message of this book can help us understand why it's sometimes hard to believe in God, and it gives us something to believe in.

Obadiah's prophecy announces the climax in the story of twin brothers that figure prominently into the overall story of the Bible—Jacob and Esau. We first meet these two brothers before they were even born because they started fighting in their mother's womb. Jacob's descendants became Israel. Esau's became Edom.

Edom's history is significant in Israel's. They are relatives of Israel, and they epitomize the antagonism of the nations toward God's people. The climactic offense of Edom against Israel is the subject of the book of Obadiah. Babylon had destroyed Jerusalem and scattered the Israelites, and Edom came in to further loot and destroy Israel in the wake of Babylon. Rather than rallying to their brothers' side, despite their rivalry, when a greater enemy arrived, the Edomites kicked their brother while he was down.

Having humbled Israel, he restores them, keeping his promise of the inheritance of people, place and rule. But God wipes out Edom, who clung to their pride and vengeance. In the end, the kingdom (dominion) will be the Lord's.

NOTES

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Read out loud -Obadiah

What does the Lord say about pride in Edom's heart (vv 3-9)?

What were the Edomites relying on?

How will God humble them?

What does the Lord say about Edom's prideful actions (vv10-16)?

What did they do to Israel?

How will God humble them?

How will God restore a humbled Israel (vv 17-21)?

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

NOTES

Do you ever find it hard to believe in God? Explain.

In what ways does Edom's pride reveal pride in your own heart?

What things do you tend to rely on more than God?

In what ways are we tempted to play God and act harmfully toward others?

In what ways are you prompted to humble yourself today?

What blessing can we expect when we trust in God's kingdom and follow King Jesus?