

- Genesis 27:39-40 And Isaac his father answered and said unto him, Behold, thy dwelling shall be the fatness of the earth, and of the dew of heaven from above; {the fatness: or, of the fatness}
And by thy sword shalt thou live, and shalt serve thy brother; and it shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion, that thou shalt break his yoke from off thy neck.
- Genesis 27:41 And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him: and Esau said in his heart, The days of mourning for my father are at hand; then will I slay my brother Jacob.
- Genesis 36:1 Now these are the generations of Esau, who is Edom.
- Genesis 36:6, 8-9 And Esau took his wives, and his sons, and his daughters, and all the persons of his house, and his cattle, and all his beasts, and all his substance, which he had got in the land of Canaan; and went into the country from the face of his brother Jacob

Thus dwelt Esau in mount Seir: Esau is Edom.
And these are the generations of Esau the father of the Edomites in mount Seir:
- Deuteronomy 2:1-5 Then we turned, and took our journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea, as the LORD spake unto me: and we compassed mount Seir many days.
And the LORD spake unto me, saying,
Ye have compassed this mountain long enough: turn you northward.
And command thou the people, saying, Ye are to pass through the coast of your brethren the children of Esau, which dwell in Seir; and they shall be afraid of you: take ye good heed unto yourselves therefore:
Meddle not with them; for I will not give you of their land, no, not so much as a foot breadth; because I have given mount Seir unto Esau for a possession.
- Numbers 20:14-21 And Moses sent messengers from Kadesh unto the king of Edom, Thus saith thy brother Israel, Thou knowest all the travail that hath befallen us:
How our fathers went down into Egypt, and we have dwelt in Egypt a long time; and the Egyptians vexed us, and our fathers:
And when we cried unto the LORD, he heard our voice, and sent an angel, and hath brought us forth out of Egypt: and, behold, we are in Kadesh, a city in the uttermost of thy border:
Let us pass, I pray thee, through thy country: we will not pass through the fields, or through the vineyards, neither will we drink of the water of the wells: we will go by the king's high way, we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left, until we have passed thy borders.
And Edom said unto him, Thou shalt not pass by me, lest I come out against thee with the sword.
And the children of Israel said unto him, We will go by the high way: and if I and my cattle drink of thy water, then I will pay for it: I will only, without doing any thing else, go through on my feet.
And he said, Thou shalt not go through. And Edom came out against him with much people, and with a strong hand.
Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his border: wherefore Israel turned away from him.
- 2 Kings 8:20-22 In his days Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah, and made a king over themselves.
So Joram went over to Zair, and all the chariots with him: and he rose by night, and smote the Edomites which compassed him about, and the captains of the chariots: and the people fled into their tents.
Yet Edom revolted from under the hand of Judah unto this day. Then Libnah revolted at the same time.

THE DESTRUCTION OF EDOM

- 1 The vision of Obadiah. Thus saith the Lord GOD concerning Edom; We have heard a rumour from the LORD, and an ambassador is sent among the heathen, Arise ye, and let us rise up against her in battle.**

Obadiah in a vision sees (hears) the report (rumour) from God that nations will come against Edom.

- 2 Behold, I have made thee small among the heathen: thou art greatly despised.**

The nations hated Edom and God has brought them down.

- 3 The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?**

The bane of mankind is a proud spirit, especially with those in power.

"The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts," Psalm 10:4

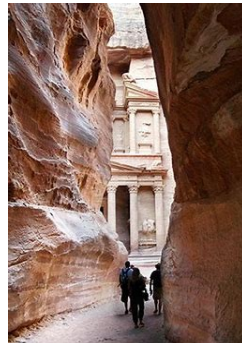
"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall," proverbs 16:8

"Thy terribleness hath deceived thee, and the pride of thine heart, O thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, that holdest the height of the hill: though thou shouldst make thy nest as high as the eagle, I will bring thee down from thence, saith the LORD," Jeremiah 49:16.

Their pride is seen in the statement "**Who shall bring me down to the ground?**"

- 4 Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence will I bring thee down, saith the LORD.**

The mountains of Edom (Bozrrah/Petra was the capital) produced an invincible spirit in their nation.



- 5 If thieves came to thee, if robbers by night, (how art thou cut off!) would they not have stolen till they had enough? if the grapegatherers came to thee, would they not leave some grapes?**
6 How are the things of Esau searched out! how are his hidden things sought up!
7 All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border: the men that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee: there is none understanding in him.
8 Shall I not in that day, saith the LORD, even destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau?
9 And thy mighty men, O Teman, shall be dismayed, to the end that every one of the mount of Esau may be cut off by slaughter.

Even thieves and grapegatherers would leave things (Vs. 5). A rhetorical question is asked in verse 6 - it is God who judges Edom. Even those who were friends of Edom will turn on he in the judgment - vs. 7.

God will destroy Edom cutting off the wise, the powerful, and all the inhabitants - vs. 8-9.

The destruction of Edom will be accomplished by the God of heaven.

THE CAUSE OF THE DESTRUCTION OF EDOM

In the next section there are (9) reasons for the destruction of Edom and they all relate to how they treated the Jewish people. The promise of Genesis 12:3, "I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curses thee.", has been a reality since the day it was penned and is seen in the nation of Edom.

10 For thy violence against thy brother Jacob shame shall cover thee, and thou shalt be cut off for ever.

In clear terms God states that the destruction of Edom is the result of their "violence" against Jewish people. **כחמ** khaw-mawce' - wrong; cruel(-ty), damage, false, injustice, unrighteous, violence (against, done).

Genesis 12:3!!!

11 In the day that thou stoodest on the other side, in the day that the strangers carried away captive his forces, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even thou wast as one of them.

(1) They stood by as others plundered the Jewish people, not being directly involved but supportive. A nation is held accountable when they know it is wrong to persecute Jewish people/Israel, yet stand passively by in support of what is occurring.

12 But thou shouldst not have looked on the day of thy brother in the day that he became a stranger; neither shouldst thou have rejoiced over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither shouldst thou have spoken proudly in the day of distress.

(2) They watched as the Jewish people became captives and (3) rejoiced over the destruction of the nation of Israel and the city of Jerusalem. (4) The even they gloated over the calamity that came upon the Jewish people.

"Remember, O LORD, the children of Edom in the day of Jerusalem; who said, Rase it, rase it, even to the foundation thereof," Psalm 137:7.

13 Thou shouldst not have entered into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; yea, thou shouldst not have looked on their affliction in the day of their calamity, nor have laid hands on their substance in the day of their calamity;

(5) They have trespassed on the land of the Jewish people, (6) then stood by and looked at the affliction of the Jewish people with indifference, at best, and (7) then plundered the wealth of the Jewish people taken into captivity.

14 Neither shouldst thou have stood in the crossway, to cut off those of his that did escape; neither shouldst thou have delivered up those of his that did remain in the day of distress.

(8) They prevented Jewish people from escaping and (9) have killed Jewish people by delivering them to their enemy.

15 For the day of the LORD is near upon all the heathen: as thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy reward shall return upon thine own head.

This is a key verse as it uses the situation with Edom as an example of all nations and God's "day of the LORD" judgment in the future Tribulation period.

1. **For the day of the LORD is near** This speaks of the 7 year Tribulation period. From the eternal God's perspective it is near.
2. **upon all the heathen** The judgment will be upon the entire world. Jeremiah 30:11:

"For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished."

3. **as thou hast done** What have the nations done? They have come against Israel and the Jewish people! Zechariah 12:3:

“And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.”

4. **it shall be done unto thee**

One commentator, David Guzik, says “There is a sense in which God’s judgment against Edom was just the fulfillment of His promise to Abraham in Genesis 12:3: I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you. The Edomites cursed Israel, so they were cursed. If we want to be blessed, we should bless the Jewish people.”

The statement is okay, but would have been much better, and entirely biblical, if the phrase “There is a sense in which...” was left off. God’s judgment against Edom was the fulfillment of Genesis 12:3!!!

5. **thy reward shall return upon thine own head**

Tony Garland, in his commentary, correctly states:

“If Obadiah sees Edom as typifying the Gentile nations of the time of the end, we must ask the question in what way does Edom typify the Gentile nations? Does Obadiah condemn Edom merely for general ungodly behavior? No. As we have seen, Obadiah’s prophecy of judgment upon Edom is closely connected with her refusal to recognize God’s choice of Israel and failure to treat the chosen nation accordingly. The evidence before us suggests that Edom’s condemnation is not primarily for general godlessness — as if she had behaved like Sodom or Gomorrah. No, her condemnation is fueled by her rejection of Israel — her behavior toward the descendants of Jacob. This, in combination with other passages in Scripture, force us to conclude that the Gentile nations will be condemned not only because of their godlessness, but also for their mistreatment and opposition of the chosen nation — their refusal to accept what God has said concerning Israel (Joel 3:1-2; Mat. 25:31-46).

16 For as ye have drunk upon my holy mountain, so shall all the heathen drink continually, yea, they shall drink, and they shall swallow down, and they shall be as though they had not been.

The nations have abused Jerusalem through the centuries. As they have done to Jerusalem, God will do to them.

Psalms 75:8 For in the hand of the LORD there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture; and he poureth out of the same: but the dregs thereof, all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them.

Jeremiah 25:15-16 For thus saith the LORD God of Israel unto me; Take the wine cup of this fury at my hand, and cause all the nations, to whom I send thee, to drink it. And they shall drink, and be moved, and be mad, because of the sword that I will send among them.

Zechariah 12:2 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem.

Revelation 14:9-10 And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

THE RESTORATION OF ISRAEL AND THE KINGDOM

- 17 But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness; and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions.**
- 18 And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and there shall not be any remaining of the house of Esau; for the LORD hath spoken it.**
- 19 And they of the south shall possess the mount of Esau; and they of the plain the Philistines: and they shall possess the fields of Ephraim, and the fields of Samaria: and Benjamin shall possess Gilead.**
- 20 And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel shall possess that of the Canaanites, even unto Zarephath; and the captivity of Jerusalem, which is in Sepharad, shall possess the cities of the south.**
- 21 And saviours shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the LORD'S.**

Vs. 17 Three truths

1. Deliverance comes from Zion

"And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob." Romans 11:26

2. The result will be holiness

"In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar. Yea, every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the LORD of hosts: and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein: and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanite in the house of the LORD of hosts." Zechariah 14:20-21

3. Israel shall possess what God has promised them.

"In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates." Genesis 15:18

Vs. 18 Israel will be a consuming fire in the hands of God with Edom as the stubble

"In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them." Zechariah 12:8

Vs. 19-20 The Jewish people will possess the land promised to them that was stolen by the nations.

"And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God." Amos 9:14-15

Vs. 21 **saviours shall come up on mount Zion to judge the mount of Esau**

"In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem." Zechariah 12:6

the kingdom shall be the LORD'S

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem." Isaiah 2:2-3