EDIFIED EDITION

Obadiah

A modern rendering of the Holy Scriptures

1	21	Old	31
chapters	verses	Testament	book of 66

Edified Edition (EDE): a modern rendering of the Holy Scriptures from the original Hebrew and Greek, in everyday British English. www.edifiededition.com
Numbered notes follow each chapter.
© 2026 Edified Edition. Made 11 November 2026.

Chapter 1

Obadiah is a vision concerning Edom. An envoy has been sent among the nations to rise against her. Edom's proud heart has deceived her, living in the clefts of the rock and saying, "Who will bring me down?", but though she soars like an eagle and nests among the stars, the LORD will bring her down. Thieves would leave something, but Esau will be ransacked, betrayed by his allies, and his wise men destroyed. Because of the violence done to his brother Jacob, Edom will be covered with shame: he stood aloof on the day strangers entered Jerusalem's gates, gloated over Judah's ruin, looted their wealth and cut down their fugitives. The day of the LORD is near for all nations; as Edom has done, it will be done to her. But on Mount Zion there will be deliverance, the house of Jacob will be a fire and Esau stubble, the exiles will possess the land, and the kingdom will be the LORD's.

1 The vision of Obadiah. This is what the Lord GOD says about Edom: We have heard a report from the LORD, and an envoy has been sent among the nations: "Rise up! Let us rise against her for battle!"[1]

2 See, I will make you small among the nations; you will be utterly despised.

3 The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rock and make your home on the heights, who say in your heart, "Who will bring me down to the ground?"[2]

4 Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down, declares the LORD.

5 If thieves came to you, if robbers by night, how you would be ruined! Would they not steal only as much as they wanted? If grape-pickers came to you, would they not leave some gleanings?

6 But how Esau has been ransacked, his hidden treasures searched out!

7 All your allies will drive you to the border; your friends will deceive you and overpower you. Those who eat your bread will set a trap for you, and you will not even detect it.

8 On that day, declares the LORD, will I not destroy the wise men of Edom and understanding from the mountain of Esau?

9 Your warriors will be terrified, Teman, so that everyone on the mountain of Esau will be cut down in the slaughter.

10 For the brutality you showed your brother Jacob you will be clothed in disgrace and cut off for all time.

11 On the day you stood aloof, on the day strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his

gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them.

12 Do not gloat over your brother on the day of his misfortune, nor rejoice over the people of Judah on the day of their destruction, nor boast so proudly on the day of their distress.

13 Do not enter the gate of My people on the day of their disaster, nor gloat over their calamity on the day of their disaster, nor seize their wealth on the day of their disaster.

14 Do not stand at the crossroads to cut down their fugitives, nor hand over their survivors on the day of distress.

15 For the LORD's day is close for every nation. What you have done will be done to you; what you have dealt out will come back on your head.

16 For as you drank on My holy mountain, so all the nations will drink continually; they will drink and gulp it down and be as if they had never been.[3]

17 But on Mount Zion there will be deliverance, and it will be holy, and the house of Jacob will possess its own inheritance.

18 Jacob's house will become a fire and Joseph's house a flame, but Esau's house will be stubble; they will set it alight and burn it up, and not one of Esau's house will be left, for the LORD has spoken.

19 Those of the Negev will possess the mountain of Esau, and those of the lowlands the land of the Philistines. They will possess the fields of Ephraim and the fields of Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead.

20 The exiles of this host of the Israelites will possess the land of the Canaanites as far as Zarephath, and the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the towns of the Negev.[4]

21 Deliverers will go up on Mount Zion to rule the mountain of Esau, and the kingdom will be the LORD's.

1 Obadiah probably prophesied soon after the fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC, when Edom joined in plundering Judah (Psalm 137:7). Verses 1–9 are closely parallel to Jeremiah 49:7–16.

2 'The rock' (sela) may also be a play on Sela, Edom's rock fortress (2 Kings 14:7), later Petra.

3 The cup of the LORD's wrath; compare Jeremiah 25:15–29.

4 Sepharad may be Sardis in Asia Minor. The Hebrew of this verse is difficult.