

Major Profit from Minor Prophets

(Obadiah)

- Introduction:
1. A struggle that began in the womb of Rebekah between Esau and Jacob extended to their respective decedents, the Edomites and the Israelites.
 2. Because of this struggle, the prophet Obadiah, in this brief one-chapter book, describes Edom's sins and pronounces God's judgment upon them.
 3. Johnny Ramsey summarized this book under the title of, "The High Price of a Bowl of Soup."
 4. Let's examine the message of this short book and glean some applications from it for today.

I. Brief Background to the book of Obadiah

- A. Obadiah was a pre-exilic prophet.
- B. It was written to the nation of Edom.
- C. The Edomites were the descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:43).
 1. God said to Rebekah, "Two nations are in your womb...and the one will be stronger than the other, and the elder shall serve the younger (Genesis 25:23).
 2. Conflict began with favoritism from Isaac and Rebekah (Genesis 25:28).
 3. Jacob later stole Esau's blessing (Genesis 27).
 4. Edom blocked passage when the children of Israel entered the promised land (Numbers 20:17-20).
 5. King David later subjected them and made them servants (2 Samuel 8:14).
- D. Obadiah was written as a judgment against Edom for its sins.
- E. (2 Chronicles 21:16-17; 2 Kings 8:20-22).
- F. What were Edom's sins?
 1. Pride (vs. 3-4).
 2. Violence against Israel (vs. 10-16).

II. Practical Lessons to Learn from Obadiah

- A. Pride goes before a fall (v. 3).
- B. There is no defense against the judgment of God (v. 4).
- C. Neutrality can be sinful (v. 11).
- D. Rejoicing at the misfortunes of others is sinful (v. 12).
- E. You reap what you sow (v. 15).
- F. God's people will be vindicated (v. 17).

- Conclusion:
1. The book of Obadiah should serve to remind us that we do indeed reap what we sow (Galatians 6:7-8).
 2. We may think we are mighty and self-sufficient, but when measured against the God of heaven, we are nothing.
 3. We can either humble ourselves in the sight of God, or be humbled by God.
 4. Which will you choose?