A quill pen with a white shaft and a dark, pointed nib lies horizontally across a piece of aged, yellowed parchment paper. The paper has a textured, fibrous appearance and some darker spots. The quill's feathers are dark and fan out to the right.

THE MAJOR  
MESSAGE

OF THE MINOR  
PROPHETS

*Dr. Gregg Marutzky*

Obadiah: Pride & Prejudice

MAJOR  
STUFF

FROM THE

minor prophets

*Dr. Gregg Marutzky*

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*Obadiah*

*Pride & Prejudice*

# *Consequences*

- *Obadiah 1:1-9 Prophecy of Destruction:  
Pride – Unreconciled with God &  
Neighbors*
- *Obadiah 1:10-16 Sins Brought Judgment:  
Injustice – Not Loving Your Brother*
- *Obadiah 1:17-21 Restoration Of Israel:  
Justice – God Shows No Favoritism*

# Consequences

**Obadiah 1:1** *"The vision of Obadiah. This is what the Sovereign Lord says about Edom—We have heard a message from the Lord: An envoy was sent to the nations to say, "Rise, let us go against her for battle."* Obadiah received instruction from Yahweh to prophecy against Edom. Edom were the descendants of Esau. Obadiah's name means "servant of Yahweh" or "worshipper of Yahweh," and wrote around 850BC. Edom settled in the regions of Mount Seir, between the Dead Sea and Gulf of Akaba (**Genesis 36**). The rock-like fortress of **Petra** (Sela) was the capital city of Edom. The approach to it was through a narrow canyon, which made the city virtually impregnable. The conflict between Edom and Israel originated in the conflict between Jacob and Esau.

# Responsibility

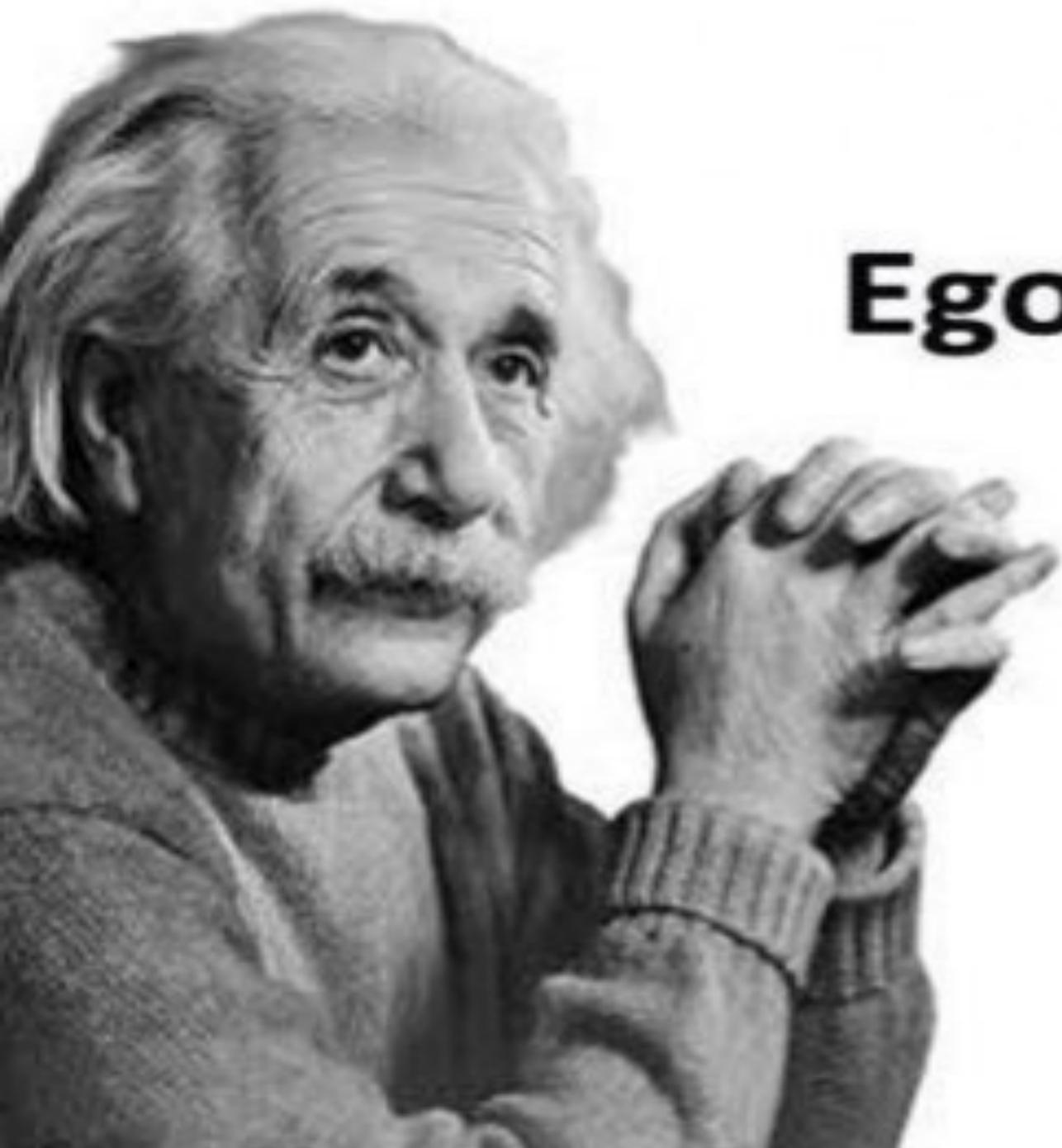
**Obadiah 1:2** *"See, I will make you small among the nations; you will be utterly despised."* Nestled high in a rocky fortress, **Edom felt immune** from enemy attack. But God proclaims that he will make them small and cut them down to size. David captured Edom and made them a vassal state (**1 Chron. 18:12-13**) by placing a garrison in the country. Solomon later developed the port in the city of Ezion-geber (**1 Kings 9:26-28**). Hadad, a member of the Edomite royal family, opposed Solomon and set up a government in exile in Egypt (**1 Kings 11:14-17**). But Judah still governed Edom during the reign of King Jehoshaphat, who posted a governor in Edom (**1 Kings 22:47-48**).

# *Edom Judged*

Edom gained her freedom from Judah, in 845 B.C., by rebelling against Jehoram, the son of Jehoshaphat (**2 Kings 8:20-22; 2 Chron. 21:8-10, 16-17**). King Amaziah of Judah partially recaptured Edom between 790 and 770 B.C. (**2 Kings 14:7**). King Uzziah of Judah recaptured the port of Ezion-geber (**2 Kings 14:21-22**). Aram (Syria) later took Ezion-geber from Judah (**2 Kings 16:5-6**). After that the Edomites revolted and attacked Judah a second time, during the reign of King Ahaz of Judah (**2 Chron. 28:17**). Finally, when King Nebuchadnezzar attacked Judah, the Edomites assisted the Babylonians (**Ps. 137:7; Jer. 49:7-22; Ezek. 25:12-14; 35:1-15**).

# Pride

**Obadiah 1:3** *"The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, 'Who can bring me down to the ground?'"* The primary sin of Edom was pride. God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. **(James 4:6, Proverbs 3:34, 1 Peter 5:5)** Sin produces **self-deception**, as we believe we are immune to rebelling against God. The deception is their sense of security which God humbles.



$$\text{Ego} = \frac{1}{\text{Knowledge}}$$

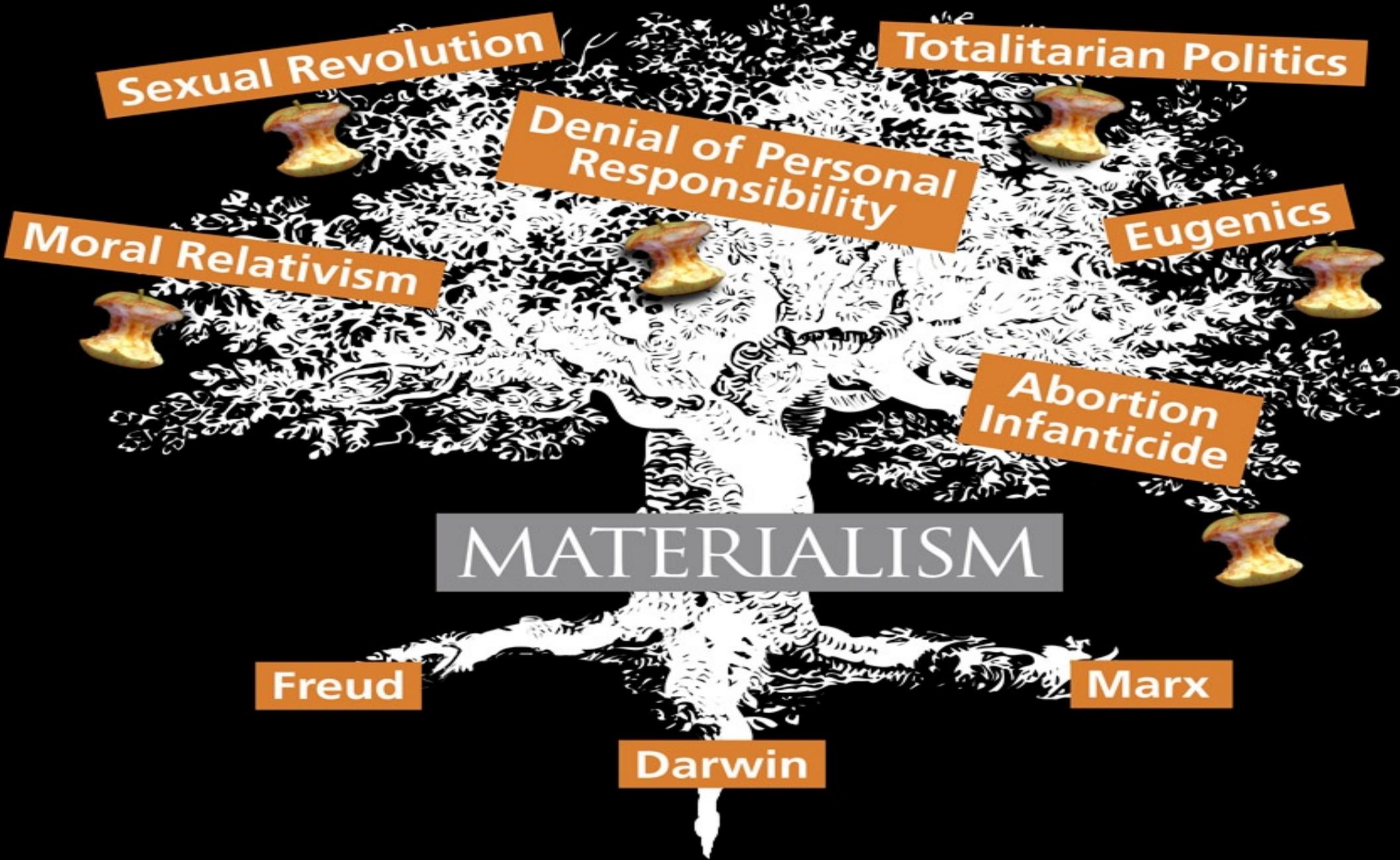
*"More the Knowledge  
Lesser the Ego,  
Lesser the Knowledge  
More the Ego..."*

**-Albert Einstein.**

# Arrogance

**Obadiah 1:4** *“Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down,” declares the Lord.*” The description of the proud include:

- **“Live in the Clefts of the Rocks”** – Live in a protected, secure place
- **“Make your Home on the Heights”** – Live above others in the hills and mountains
- **“Soar like the Eagles”** – Successful to a period of time
- **“Make your Nest among the Stars”** – Live in an inspiring place with other stars.



Sexual Revolution

Totalitarian Politics

Denial of Personal Responsibility

Eugenics

Moral Relativism

Abortion Infanticide

MATERIALISM

Freud

Marx

Darwin

# *Humiliation*

**Obadiah 1:5** *"If thieves came to you, if robbers in the night—oh, what a disaster awaits you! —would they not steal only as much as they wanted? If grape pickers came to you, would they not leave a few grapes?"* The description of their humiliation includes the following:

- **“Thieves Came to You”** – Stole as much as they wanted.
- **“Grape Pickers came to You”** – Could not keep thieves from taking your crops

# *Prideful*

**Obadiah 1:7** *“All your allies will force you to the border; your friends will deceive and overpower you; those who eat your bread will set a trap for you, but you will not detect it.”* The humiliation described:

- **“Allies will Force you to the Border”** – Allies turn against the arrogant and prideful.
- **“Friends will Deceive and Overpower you”** – Friends trick and trap the proud.
- **“Those who eat your bread will set a Trap for you”** – Members of their household, those they feed betray them.
- **“You will not detect it”** – The proud do not see backstabbing coming.

# *Love Neighbor*

**Obadiah 1:8** “In that day,” declares the Lord, “will I not destroy the wise men of Edom, those of understanding in the mountains of Esau?” Edom was known for its wise men and their discernments, but all of Edom's wisdom would perish when God judged them. Human wisdom cannot match God's knowledge. Do not resist God's will!

**Obadiah 1:9** “Your warriors, Teman, will be terrified, and everyone in Esau's mountains will be cut down in the slaughter.” Even the fighting men and bravest in the country will lose their will to fight. It is useless to oppose God.

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

**Obadiah 1:10** “Because of the violence against your brother Jacob, you will be covered with shame; you will be destroyed forever.” The sins Edom committed included acting violently towards their relatives. Edom gloated over Israel’s trials and tribulations. Family conflict and unreconciled conflicts can destroy relationships for generations.

**Obadiah 1:11** On the day you stood aloof while strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them.” Sitting idle while Jerusalem was destroyed was an offense against Yahweh and his temple. The consequences were terrible for not defending their relatives.

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

**Obadiah 1:12** *"You should not gloat over your brother in the day of his misfortune, nor rejoice over the people of Judah in the day of their destruction, nor boast so much in the day of their trouble."* Edomites were descended from Esau (**Genesis 25:19-34**). Antagonism originating with the twin brothers, Jacob and Esau (**Genesis 27**), persisted through the centuries involving Israel (**Jacob's descendants**) and **Edom (Esau's descendants)**. Edomites or Idumeans existed as a nation until New Testament times. In A.D. 70, they fell to the Roman invasion of Palestine and disappeared from history altogether. **Edomites resisted God and disappeared.**

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

**Obadiah 1:13** *"You should not march through the gates of my people in the day of their disaster, nor gloat over them in their calamity in the day of their disaster, nor seize their wealth in the day of their disaster."* The

Edomites were **guilty of the second greatest commandment, "not loving your neighbor."** Matthew

**22:39** The Edomites committed the following sins against their brothers in Israel. **God levies justice**

**between the rich and the poor, the powerful and the helpless, the oppressors and the needy.**

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

**Obadiah 1:14** *"You should not wait at the crossroads to cut down their fugitives, nor hand over their survivors in the day of their trouble." The Edomites added insult to injury by capturing survivors from the conquest and turned them over to Israel's enemies. Instead of providing asylum they **assisted the pagans**. The Golden Rule – **"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you!"** should always be practiced.*

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

**Obadiah 1:15** *“The day of the Lord is near for all nations. As you have done, it will be done to you; your deeds will return upon your own head.” “What goes around comes around!”* Edom was devoid of compassion when it plundered Israel. The Edomites watched the destruction of Jerusalem and did not raise a hand to help. **They saw Israel's misfortune as an opportunity to strengthen their own position.** They stole and looted from the helpless in the city, and so the wrath of God was kindled against them.

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

**Obadiah 1:16** *“Just as you drank on my holy hill, so all the nations will drink continually; they will drink and drink and be as if they had never been.” The description of judgment foreshadows the obliteration of the people who opposed God’s people. **God brings about Justice.***

**Obadiah 1:17** *“But on Mount Zion will be deliverance; it will be holy, and Jacob will possess his inheritance.” God promised justice for Israel. The chosen people would inherit the Promise Land eventually. **Holy justice requires fair-play. We reap what we sow!***

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

**Obadiah 1:18** *“Jacob will be a fire and Joseph a flame; Esau will be stubble, and they will set him on fire and destroy him. There will be no survivors from Esau. The Lord has spoken.”* Edom was destroyed. **The chosen people were the “fire” that burned up the pagans.**

**Obadiah 1:19** *“People from the Negev will occupy the mountains of Esau, and people from the foothills will possess the land of the Philistines. They will occupy the fields of Ephraim and Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead.”* **Within the justice of God, grace, and blessing are given to those outcasts and oppressed.**

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

**Obadiah 1:20** *“This company of Israelite exiles who are in Canaan will possess the land as far as Zarephath; the exiles from Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the towns of the Negev.”* Restoration of God’s people will be complete from one shore to the other, from top to bottom, from one end to the other. **God removes sin as far as the east from the west, the north and the south. (Psalms 103:12) The Lord will reign overall.**

**Obadiah 1:21** *“Deliverers will go up on Mount Zion to govern the mountains of Esau. And the kingdom will be the Lord’s.”* Obadiah prophesied regarding the kingdom of God on Mount Zion to judge the nations.

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

○

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

- 1. Because of the violence against your brother Jacob” – Violent*
- 2. “Stood aloof while strangers carried off his wealth” – Apathetic*
- 3. “Foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them.” – Injustice*
- 4. “Gloated over your brother in the day of his misfortune.” – Antagonistic*
- 5. “Rejoiced over the people of Judah in the day of their destruction.” – Arrogant*
- 6. “Boasted so much in the day of their trouble.” – Uncaring*

# *Not Loving Your Brother*

- 7. "Marched through the gates of my people in the day of their disaster." – Plundered*
- 8. "Gloated over them in their calamity in the day of their disaster." – Proud*
- 9. "Seized their wealth in the day of their disaster." – Defrauded*
- 10. "Waited at the crossroads to cut down their fugitives" – Abusive*
- 11. "Handed over their survivors in the day of their trouble." – Inhospitable*



God

**Materialism**



# *Pillaged*

(Vs. 6) *“But how Esau will be ransacked, his hidden treasures pillaged!”* The arrogant country would be humbled by God and lose all security. (Vs. 8) *“In that day,” declares the Lord, “will I not destroy the wise men of Edom, those of understanding in the mountains of Esau?”* Edom was known for its wise men and their discernments, but all of Edom's wisdom would perish when God judges. (Vs. 9) *“Your warriors, Teman, will be terrified, and everyone in Esau's mountains will be cut down in the slaughter.”* Even the fighting men and bravest in the country will lose their will to fight. It is useless to oppose God.

**Ha Ha!**



# *Pillaged*

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**I BELIEVE  
I CAN  
GLOAT**

# Edomites

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# *Insult to Injury*

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# Golden Rule

(Vs.15) *"The day of the Lord is near for all nations. As you have done, it will be done to you; your deeds will return upon your own head."* "What goes around comes around!"

Edom was devoid of compassion when it plundered Israel. The Edomites watched the destruction of Jerusalem and did not raise a hand to help. They saw Israel's misfortune as an opportunity to strengthen their own position. They stole and looted from the helpless in the city, and so the wrath of God was kindled against them. **Golden Rule** – "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you!" should always be practiced.

# *Justice*

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# Restoration

(Vs. 17) *“But on Mount Zion will be deliverance; it will be holy, and Jacob will possess his inheritance.”* God promised justice for Israel. The **chosen people** would inherit the **Promise Land** eventually. Holy justice requires fair-play. **We reap what we sow!**

(Vs. 18) *“Jacob will be a fire and Joseph a flame; Esau will be stubble, and they will set him on fire and destroy him. There will be no survivors from Esau.”* The Lord has *spoken.* Edom was completely destroyed. The chosen people were the **“fire”** that burned up the pagans.

# Mercy

(Vs. 19) *“ People from the Negev will occupy the mountains of Esau, and people from the foothills will possess the land of the Philistines. They will occupy the fields of Ephraim and Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead.”* Within the justice of God, grace and blessing are given to those outcasts and oppressed. God levies justice between the rich and the poor, the powerful and the helpless, the oppressors and the needy.

# Hope

(Vs.20) *“This company of Israelite exiles who are in Canaan will possess the land as far as Zarephath; the exiles from Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the towns of the Negev.”* Restoration of God’s people will be complete from one shore to the other, from top to bottom, from one end to the other. God removes sin as far as the east from the west, the north and the south.

**Psalms 103:12**

# *Mount Zion*

(Vs.21) *“Deliverers will go up on Mount Zion to govern the mountains of Esau. And the kingdom will be the Lord's.”* Obadiah prophesied regarding the kingdom of God established on Mount Zion to judge the nations. The Lord will reign over all.

# *Lessons Learned*

1. **Always Reconcile** With Your Neighbors.
2. **Never Rejoice** Over Other's Misfortune.
3. **Always Love** Your Neighbor Regardless.
4. **Never Align** with the World over Christians.
5. God is Concerned About **Justice For All**.
6. God will Exercise **Judgment on Oppressors**.
7. God eventually **settles all justice claims**.