

Obadiah

New American Standard Bible (NASB)

1 The vision of Obadiah.

Thus says the Lord God concerning Edom—

We have heard a report from the Lord,
And an envoy has been sent among the
nations *saying*,

“Arise and let us go against her for battle”—

2 “Behold, I will make you small among the nations;
You are greatly despised.**3** “The arrogance of your heart has deceived you,
You who live in the clefts of the rock,
In the loftiness of your dwelling place,
Who say in your heart,

‘Who will bring me down to earth?’

4 “Though you build high like the eagle,
Though you set 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—

O how you will be ruined!—

Would they not steal *only* until they had enough?If grape gatherers came to you,
Would they not leave *some* gleanings?**6** “O how Esau will be ransacked,
And his hidden treasures searched out!**7** “All the men allied with you
Will send you forth to the border,
And the men at peace with you
Will deceive you and overpower you.*They who eat your bread*

Will set an ambush for you.

(There is no understanding in him.)

8 “Will I not on that day,” declares the Lord,
“Destroy wise men from Edom
And understanding from the mountain of Esau?”**9** “Then your mighty men will be dismayed,
O Teman,
So that everyone may be cut off from the mountain of
Esau by slaughter.**10** “Because of violence to your brother Jacob,
You will be covered *with* shame,
And you will be cut off forever.**11** “On the day that you stood aloof,
On the day that strangers carried off his wealth,
And foreigners entered his gate
And cast lots for Jerusalem—
You too were as one of them.**12** “Do not gloat over your brother’s day,
The day of his misfortune.And do not rejoice over the sons of Judah
In the day of their destruction;

Yes, do not boast

In the day of *their* distress.**13** “Do not enter the gate of My people
In the day of their disaster.Yes, you, do not gloat over their calamity
In the day of their disaster.

And do not loot their wealth

In the day of their disaster.

14 “Do not stand at the fork of the road
To cut down their fugitives;

And do not imprison their survivors

In the day of their distress.

15 “For the day of the Lord draws near on all the
nations.

As you have done, it will be done to you.

Your dealings will return on your own head.

16 “Because just as you drank on My holy mountain,
All the nations will drink continually.

They will drink and swallow

And become as if they had never existed.

17 “But on Mount Zion there will be those who
escape,

And it will be holy.

And the house of Jacob will possess their
possessions.**18** “Then the house of Jacob will be a fire
And the house of Joseph a flame;But the house of Esau *will be* as stubble.And they will set them on fire and consume them,
So that there will be no survivor of the house of
Esau,”

For the Lord has spoken.

19 Then *those of* the Negev will possess the mountain
of Esau,And *those of* the Shephelah the Philistine *plain*;Also, possess the territory of Ephraim and the
territory of Samaria,And Benjamin *will possess* Gilead.**20** And the exiles of this host of the sons of Israel,
Who are *among* the Canaanites as far as Zarephath,And the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad
Will possess the cities of the Negev.**21** The deliverers will ascend Mount Zion
To judge the mountain of Esau,

And the kingdom will be the Lord’s.

For additional thought and discussion:

For more suggested methods of study: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/methodical-bible-study/>
For examples of inductive studies: <http://www.goodnotsafe.com/inductive-bible-study-examples-2/>

Inductive Bible Study

(A few general ideas)

Observation
(What does it say?)

What facts do you **observe** about the passage that help bring out the writer’s thought process?

- Who are the people involved?
- What action takes place?
- What type of literature is it (poetry, history, didactic, etc.)?
- What details are included or left out?
- Are any unusual words used?
- Is there symbolic language?
- What is the grammar of the passage (pronouns, prepositions, verb tenses)?
- Are words or ideas repeated?
- Any comparisons or contrasts?
- Any cause and effect?
- Are there indications of purpose (“in order that...”)?
- Are there conclusions (“Therefore...”)?
- Are there explanations?
- Does the passage logically break into sections?
- How would you summarize the passage?
- What would be a good “headline” for the passage?

Interpretation
(What does it mean?)

What questions come to mind about the facts that would help you **interpret** the meaning?

- How would the original readers have understood the passage?
- What is the main emphasis?
- Why does the writer use repetition, or contrast, or unusual words?
- What does the grammar or structure of the passage reveal about the writer’s thought pattern?
- Is there a logical sequence in the passage?
- How are different ideas in the passage connected?
- Are there any new ideas or concepts presented?
- Are there difficulties in the passage?

Application
(What does it mean for me?)

What is the impact on your life? What **application** does the Holy Spirit want to show you?

- Is there a command to obey?
- Is there a promise to be thankful for?
- Is there an attribute of God to worship?
- Is there an example to follow?

**Read nothing into the Scriptures, but draw everything from them, and suffer nothing to remain hidden that is really in them.
J.A. Bengel (1687-1752)**

For a much more detailed description of the methodology, see Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.