

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. In your estimation, does God always reprove for sin before bringing judgment? Explain.
2. The Edomites were not God's chosen people. Why did God bring such judgment on them? What was their relationship to Judah?
3. God promised that the children of Judah should return to Jerusalem. Has this been fulfilled?
4. Why is prophecy an integral part of God's word?
5. What will we as believers, be judged for?

SUMMARY:

The Edomites must have thought that they were pretty smart. They had chosen the "winning" side and had profited from this choice. They had been able to take part in the looting of Israel and had made a material gain. They did not consider that though the judgment of God may be postponed for a time, it nevertheless is an inevitable matter and sooner or later will come. Because they did not consider God in their plans and acts and because their hearts were hard to the needs of God's people, they were to suffer a very hard judgment.

It is a sad thing that man never seems to learn. Natural man feels that he knows best and will be able to take care of himself—even though history has repeatedly shown that the plans of man are continually upset. A careful survey of history also shows that the things God has foretold in His Word unerringly come to pass. It is a sad thing to see a nation die. It is a sad thing to see a person apart from God die, but it is an even sadder thing to consider the final judgment which is coming to all men whose names are not written in the Lamb's book of life.

NOTES:

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #12

December 18, 2011

Fourth Quarter

OBADIAH, A PROPHET OF JUDGMENT

LESSON TEXT: Obadiah 1-21

LESSON SETTING: Obadiah prophesies of God's judgment on the Edomites.

TIME: Approximately 587 B.C.

I. GOD'S ENEMIES REPROVED. Obadiah 1-9

- A. Pride Deceives (vs. 3) Psalm 36:2; Galatians 6:3; Revelation 3:17
- B. The Lord Shall Humble (vs. 4) Job 40:12; Isaiah 2:12; Luke 1:52
- C. Mighty Men to be Dismayed (vs. 9) Isaiah 37:26-27; 41:11; Jeremiah 20:11

II. GOD'S ENEMIES JUDGED. Obadiah 10-16

- A. Reasons for Judgment
 1. Shared in the Spoils of Jerusalem (vs. 11)
 2. Lack of Brotherly Love (vs. 12)
 3. Rejoiced in Judah's misery (vs. 12)
 4. Lack of Mercy (vs. 13)
- B. God Shall Repay (vs. 10, 15) Isaiah 65:6; Jeremiah 51:56; Hebrews 10:30

III. GOD'S PEOPLE DELIVERED. Obadiah 17-21

- A. Deliverance Promised (vs. 17) 2 Peter 2:9
- B. Captives Shall Return (vs. 20) Ezekiel 20:40; Galatians 4:3-5
- C. God's Kingdom Established (vs. 21) Daniel 2:44; Acts 2:2-4; Revelation 11:17

GOLDEN TEXT: *HE THAT BELIEVETH ON THE SON, HATH EVERLASTING LIFE: AND HE THAT BELIEVETH NOT THE SON SHALL NOT SEE LIFE; BUT THE WRATH OF GOD ABIDETH IN HIM.*
John 3:36

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: John 1:1-17

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Isaiah 9:2-7; Micah 5:1-2;
John 15:1-27; Colossians 1:9-19

QUARTERLY THEME: Kings and Prophets of Judah

TOPIC: THE LIVING WORD

INTRODUCTION:

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son . . .” (John 3:16a) not that he might give us another holiday, not that we might have one day less to work, not to provide merchants with another promotional scheme, not even that we might get together and be kind to one another through the exchange of gifts and the like. But rather, He sent His Son that we might again come into the relationship with Him that sin prevented. You could not gather this from our actions. Consider for a moment a person wholly unfamiliar with our society who on the basis of observation only was asked to describe what he or she saw. It is sure that the redemption of mankind would hardly be gathered from the actions observed. Practices such as the ones we take part in daily come about slowly and in small steps. We should pause often and consider for a moment how they came into being, whether they are worthwhile, whether they actually cause harm, and whether they should be continued.

The people of the world have never been willing to accept the simple truths the Lord has provided in His Word. They have never been willing to turn over the direction of their lives to God, and the Word tells us that this will always be true. It tells us that God will one day rule here on earth with an iron hand and will spend eternity with those who have allowed themselves to be prepared by His Holy Spirit.

Believers should live their lives in such a way as to constantly bring honor and glory to God and to continually live blamelessly before unbelievers. In this way the Lord can use us as lights to proclaim His way. Let us spend this Christmas season considering the true meaning of Christmas.

CENTRAL TRUTH: Jesus, the eternal Word, became flesh that He might bring light and life to all who believe.

GOLDEN TEXT: *IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD.* John 1:1

May we start by analyzing the use of this expression “The Word.” This is used synonymously with the Lord Jesus. Verse 14 of this same chapter says, “The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.” In Revelation 19:13, referring to the Lord we read, “and His name is called the Word of God.” Also in I John 5:7, reference is made to the three in heaven as “the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.” Other references to these three are the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

Having then established that Jesus and the Word are the same, we more clearly see what God is trying to reveal in His Holy Word. It is for us to understand the relationship to God of the Word of life. This written Word is much the lifeblood of any part of creation. It is our lifeblood spiritually if we are partakers of it and it rules in our hearts. It is one thing to say that we “accept the Lord” but it is entirely another matter to be obedient to the Word (or Jesus). If only people who say they “accept the Lord” would also live this new life which the Word lays before us. If we do this we will be found acceptable to Him and this is what really counts. Are you living your life in a way that you will be found acceptable to Him?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF December 19 – 25

M. Jesus’ Coming Prophesied. Isaiah 40:1-11
T. *Jesus, the Light. John 1:1-9
W. *Jesus, the Son of God. John 1:10-17
T. Jesus Announced by John. John 1:18-28
F. Jesus, the Creator. Colossians 1:9-19
S. Jesus, the Forgiver of Sins. 1 John 1:1-10
S. Jesus, Expression of God’s Love. 1 John 4:1-10

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