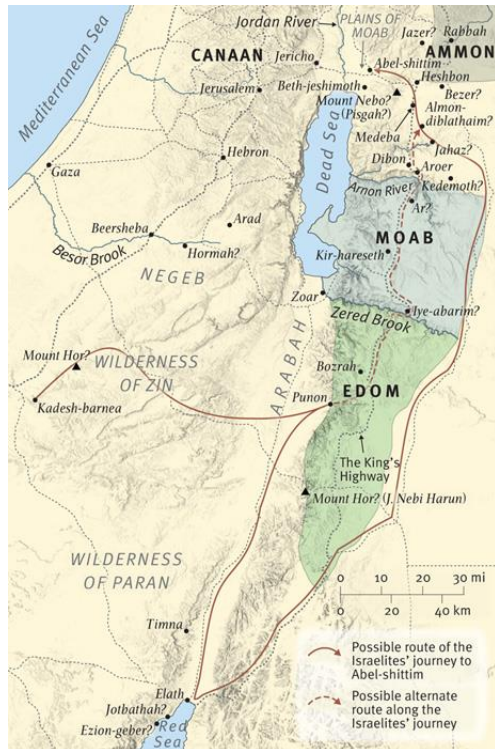


Obadiah

A. Mapping the Big Picture

1. Theme – Judgment on Edom's Arrogant Enmity
2. Compact Outline of Obadiah
 - a. Destruction of Edom 1-18
 - b. Deliverance of Israel 19-21
3. Date - 840 or 586 (Key: Which battle fits vv. 11-14?)
4. Geographical Helps
 - a. The Exodus Route



b. The Ancient Near East



B. The Prophets in Print: Pre-exilic, Exilic & Post-exilic

Pre-exilic (before 722 BC)

- Obadiah [?]
- Joel
- Jonah
- Amos

Exilic (722 – 536 BC)

- Micah
- Hosea
- Isaiah
- Nahum
- Zephaniah
- Habakkuk
- Ezekiel
- Jeremiah
- Obadiah [?]
- Daniel

Post-exilic (520 – 424 BC)

- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi



Obadiah

Song – *God Has Spoken by His Prophets*

C. Key Verses –

1. “The pride of your heart has deceived you,
You who live in the clefts of the rock,
In your lofty dwelling,
Who say in your heart,
‘Who will bring me down to the ground?’”
Obadiah 3 (ESV) / Emphasis: Edom’s arrogance
2. “The day of the LORD is near upon all the nations.
As you have done, it shall be done to you; ...
Saviors shall go up to Mount Zion
to rule Esau,
and the kingdom shall be the LORD’s.”
Obadiah 15a, 21 (ESV) / Emphasis: judgment & salvation

D. Time Frame

1. View 1 – 605-586 BC (during Babylon’s invasion of Jerusalem)
 - a. This would make Jeremiah a contemporary of Obadiah.
 - b. There are significant parallels between Obad 10-18 and Joel

i. Obad 10	Joel 3:19
ii. Obad 11	Joel 3:3
iii. Obad 15	Joel 3:4, 7
iv. Obad 15	Joel 1:15; 2:1; 3:14
v. Obad 17	Joel 3:17
vi. Obad 18	Joel 3:8f.
 - c. There are significant parallels between Obad 1-9 and Jer 49:7-22

i. Obad 1	Jer 49:14
ii. Obad 2	Jer 49:15
iii. Obad 3a	Jer 49:16a
iv. Obad 4	Jer 49:16b
v. Obad 6	Jer 49:9
vi. Obad 6	Jer 49:10a
vii. Obad 8	Jer 49:7
viii. Obad 9a	Jer 49:22b
ix. Obad 16	Jer 49:12

d. The book presents the fall of Jerusalem as a past event (v. 11) and the fall of Edom as a future event. So a probable date would be after 586 BC (the destruction of Jerusalem by Babylon) and before 553 BC (Babylon’s campaign against Edom). The most likely situation is the first half of the Babylonian exile. The place of writing would have been Jerusalem.

e. Arad 24

2. View 2 – 853-841 BC (during K. Jehoram’s reign)

- a. This would make Elijah and Elisha contemporaries of Obadiah.
- b. There were 3 other significant invasions of Jerusalem in OT history:
 - i. Ca. 925 BC – Shishak, king of Egypt during Rehoboam’s reign (1 Kgs 14:25-26; 2 Chron 12)
 - ii. 848-841 BC – The Philistines and Arabians during Jerhoam’s reign (2 Chron 21:8-20)
 - iii. Ca. 790 BC – Jehoash, king of Israel (2 Kings 14; 2 Chron 25)
- c. Only the 848-841 BC and 586 BC dates can fit the written history.
- d. Obadiah does not mention the total destruction of the city (was so under Nebuchadnezzar).
- e. Obadiah does not mention the Babylonians by name (as all the other prophets who wrote about Jerusalem’s fall did).
- f. Obadiah does not mention the destruction of the temple, nor the deportation of the people. Captives appear to have been taken to the SW – not E to Babylon (v. 20).

3. Drawing a Conclusion

- a. Who is borrowing from whom – and why?
- b. Since Joel writes, “As the LORD has said” (3:8), he may be doing the quoting.
- c. One specific time vs. more than one

E. Author – Obadiah

F. The Issues