

Minor Prophets – Obadiah, Jonah, Malachi

Quarter: Winter 2006/07

Teacher: Scott Baker

Themes: Obadiah: The Doom of Edom
 Jonah: Repent, Nineveh, Repent!
 Malachi: Reforming and Refining the Covenant People

Summary: The doom of Edom, the repentance of Nineveh, and the reform of Israel
 God addresses His people, their brothers (Edom), and their enemies (Nineveh)

| Date | Lesson | Obadiah Lesson Title | Obadiah |
|-------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| 03-Dec-2006 | 1 | The Doom of Edom | 1:1-9 |
| 10-Dec-2006 | 2 | Your Brother's Keeper | 1:10-21 |
| Date | Lesson | Jonah Lesson Title | Jonah |
| 17-Dec-2006 | 3 | Jonah's Disobedience | 1:1-16 |
| 24-Dec-2006 | 4 | Jonah's Prayer | 1:17-2:10 |
| 31-Dec-2006 | 5 | Jonah's Obedience | 3:1-10 |
| 07-Jan-2007 | 6 | Jonah's Complaint | 4:1-11 |
| Date | Lesson | Malachi Lesson Title | Malachi |
| 14-Jan-2007 | 7 | Covenant Love | 1:1-5 |
| 21-Jan-2007 | 8 | Covenant Hypocrisy | 1:6-14 |
| 28-Jan-2007 | 9 | Covenant Ministry | 2:1-9 |
| 04-Feb-2007 | 10 | Covenant Infidelity | 2:10-16 |
| 11-Feb-2007 | 11 | Covenant Purification | 2:17-3:6 |
| 18-Feb-2007 | 11 | Covenant Robbery | 3:7-18 |
| 25-Feb-2007 | 13 | Covenant Judgment | 4:1-6 |

Structure of Obadiah

- A. Proud Edom Will Be Defeated (1-4)
- B. Edom Will Be Completely Plundered (5-7)
- C. Edom's Population Will Be Destroyed (8-9)
- X. CENTER: Indictment of Edom (10-14)
- C'. Edom and the Nations Will Be Destroyed (15-16)
- B'. Israel Will Plunder Edom (17-18)
- A'. Humbled Israel Will Be Victorious (19-21)

Outline of Obadiah

I. The Doom of Edom (vv. 1-9)

- A. Introduction to the Book of Obadiah (v. 1)
- B. The Pride of Edom (vv. 2-9)
 - 1. Pride of Position (vv. 2-4)
 - 2. Pride of Possessions (vv. 5-6)
 - 3. Pride of Partners (v. 7)
 - 4. Pride of Perception (vv. 8-9)

Outline of Jonah

III. Jonah's Disobedience (1:1-16)

- A. Jonah's Commission (1:1-3)
 - 1. Jonah ben Amittai (1:1)
 - 2. God's Command (1:2)
 - 3. Jonah Disobeys (1:3)
- B. Jonah's Flight (1:4-16)
 - 1. God's Storm (1:4-6)
 - 2. Sailor's Lots (1:7-8)
 - 3. Jonah's Confession (1:9)
 - 4. Sailor's Fear (1:10-12)
 - 5. God's Calm (1:13-16)

IV. Jonah's Prayer (1:17-2:10)

- A. Jonah & the Great Fish (1:17; 2:10)
- B. Jonah's Prayer of Praise (2:1-9)
 - 1. Prayer of Praise (2:1)
 - 2. Going Down (2:2-4)
 - 3. Bottomed Out (2:5-6)
 - 4. Coming Up (2:7-9)
- C. The Sign of Jonah (Mt. 12:38-42)

Structure of Jonah

- A. Jonah Disobeys Commission to Go to Nineveh (1:1-3)
- B. Jonah and the Pagan Sailors (1:4-16)
- C. Jonah's Grateful Prayer (1:17-2:10)
- A'. Jonah Obeys Re-commission to Go to Nineveh (3:1-3)
- B'. Jonah and the Pagan Ninevites (3:4-10)
- C'. Jonah's Resentful Prayer (4:1-3)
- D. CLIMAX: The LORD's Lesson for Jonah (4:4-11)

II. Your Brother's Keeper (vv. 10-21)

- A. The Unbrotherliness of Edom (v. 10-14)
 - 1. Unbrotherliness (vv. 10-11)
 - 2. Slippery Slope (vv. 12-14)
- B. The Day of the LORD (vv. 15-21)
 - 1. Judgment on the Nations (vv. 15-16)
 - 2. Deliverance of Israel (v. 21)

V. Jonah's Obedience (3:1-10)

- A. Jonah's Re-Commission (3:1-3)
 - 1. Second Chance (3:1)
 - 2. Preach the Message (3:2-3a)
 - 3. Nineveh (3:2a, 3bc)
- B. Jonah's Mission (3:4-10)
 - 1. Jonah Preaches (3:4)
 - 2. Ninevites Repent (3:5-6)
 - 3. The King Proclaims (3:7-9)
 - 4. God Relents (3:10)

VI. Jonah's Complaint (4:1-11)

- A. Jonah's Prayer of Anger (4:1-3)
 - 1. Jonah's Anger (4:1)
 - 2. Jonah's Prayer (4:2)
 - 3. Jonah's Death Wish (4:3)
- B. God's Lesson for Jonah (4:4-11)
 - 1. Jonah's Booth (4:4-5)
 - 2. God's Plant (4:6)
 - 3. God's Worm & Wind (4:7-8)
 - 4. God's Compassion (4:9-11)

Structure of Malachi

- A. The LORD's Justice in Covenant Election (1:1-5)
- B. Unacceptable Worship: Sacrifices (1:6-14)
 - C. Past Messengers of the Covenant: Failure of Levites (2:1-9)
 - D. CENTER: Covenant Infidelity (2:10-16)
 - C'. Future Messenger of the Covenant: Purification of Levites (2:17-3:6)
- B'. Unacceptable Worship: Tithes & Words (3:7-18)
- A'. The LORD's Justice in the Final Judgment (4:1-6)

Outline of Malachi

- VII. Covenant Love (1:1-5)**
 - A. Introduction (1:1)
 - 1. Prophet
 - 2. Date
 - 3. Setting
 - 4. Underlying Themes
 - 5. Organization
 - 6. Heading (1:1)
 - B. Love and Hate (1:2-5)
 - 1. Jacob and Esau (1:2-3)
 - 2. The Doom of Edom (1:4-5)
 - B. Treachery of Divorce (2:14-16)
 - 1. Wife of Your Youth (2:14)
 - 2. One Nation (2:15)
 - 3. Garment Covered with Violence (2:16)
- VIII. Covenant Hypocrisy (1:6-14)**
 - A. Irreverent Worshipers (1:6a)
 - B. Defiled Food (1:6b-8)
 - C. Unacceptable Worship (1:9)
 - D. Shut the Doors! (1:10)
 - E. Gentile Worship (1:11)
 - F. Contemptible Food (1:12-13)
 - G. Cursed Worshipers (1:14)
- IX. Covenant Ministry (2:1-9)**
 - A. Covenantal Curse (2:1-3)
 - 1. Reversed Blessings (2:1-2)
 - 2. Unholy Feasts (2:3)
 - B. Covenant with Levi (2:4-7)
 - 1. Covenant (2:4-5a)
 - 2. Conduct (2:5b-7)
 - C. Corrupted Covenant (2:8-9)
- X. Covenant Infidelity (2:10-16)**
 - A. Treachery of Adultery (2:10-13)
 - 1. One Father (2:10)
 - 2. Daughter of a Foreign God (2:11)
 - 3. Cut Off from the Tents of Jacob (2:12)
 - 4. Altar Covered with Tears (2:13)
 - B. Treachery of Divorce (2:14-16)
 - 1. Wife of Your Youth (2:14)
 - 2. One Nation (2:15)
 - 3. Garment Covered with Violence (2:16)
- XI. Covenant Purification (2:17-3:6)**
 - A. Wearying the LORD (2:17)
 - B. The Coming LORD (3:1-5)
 - 1. My Messenger (3:1)
 - 2. Purified People (3:2-3a)
 - 3. Purified Offering (3:3b-4)
 - 4. Judgment (3:5)
 - C. The Unchanging God (3:6)
- XII. Covenant Robbery (3:7-18)**
 - A. Robbing God of Tithes (3:7-12)
 - 1. The Charge (3:7-9)
 - 2. The Test (3:10-12)
 - B. Robbing God of Respect (3:13-15)
 - 1. Harsh Words (3:13)
 - 2. Useless Service (3:14)
 - 3. Unrighteous Test (3:15)
 - C. Remnant Response (3:16-18)
 - 1. Encouraging Words (3:16a)
 - 2. Book of Remembrance (3:16b)
 - 3. God's Possession (3:17)
 - 4. Distinguishing the Remnant (3:18)
- XIII. Covenant Judgment (4:1-6)**
 - A. The Day of the LORD (4:1-3)
 - 1. The Burning Oven (4:1)
 - 2. The Sun of Righteousness (4:2-3)
 - B. The Two Witnesses (4:4-6)
 - 1. Moses (4:4)
 - 2. Elijah (4:5)
 - 3. Curse (4:6)

References to Obadiah

- Obadiah vv. 1-4** ¹The vision of Obadiah. Thus says the Lord GOD concerning Edom (We have heard a report from the LORD, and a messenger has been sent among the nations, saying, “Arise, and let us rise up against her for battle”): ²“Behold, I will make you small among the nations; you shall be greatly despised. ³The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; you who say in your heart, ‘Who will bring me down to the ground?’ ⁴Though you ascend as high as the eagle, and though you set your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down,” says the LORD.
- Jeremiah 49:14-16 ¹⁴*I have heard a message from the LORD, and an ambassador has been sent to the nations: “Gather together, come against her, and rise up to battle!* ¹⁵*“For indeed, I will make you small among nations, despised among men. ¹⁶Your fierceness has deceived you, the pride of your heart, O you who dwell in the clefts of the rock, who hold the height of the hill! Though you make your nest as high as the eagle, I will bring you down from there,” says the LORD.*
- Obadiah vv. 5-6** ⁵If thieves had come to you, If robbers by night—Oh, how you will be cut off!—would they not have stolen till they had enough? If grape-gatherers had come to you, would they not have left some gleanings? ⁶Oh, how Esau shall be searched out! How his hidden treasures shall be sought after!
- Jeremiah 49:9-10 ⁹*If grape-gatherers came to you, would they not leave some gleaning grapes? If thieves by night, Would they not destroy until they have enough? ¹⁰But I have made Esau bare; I have uncovered his secret places, and he shall not be able to hide himself. His descendants are plundered, his brethren and his neighbors, and he is no more.*
- Obadiah v. 8** ⁸“Will I not in that day,” says the LORD, “Even destroy the wise men from Edom, and understanding from the mountains of Esau?”
- Jeremiah 49:7 ⁷Against Edom. Thus says the LORD of hosts: “*Is wisdom no more in Teman? Has counsel perished from the prudent? Has their wisdom vanished?*”
- Obadiah v. 21** ²¹Then saviors [deliverers] shall come to Mount Zion to judge the mountains of Esau, and the kingdom shall be the LORD’s.
- Joel 2:32 ³²And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For *in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance*, as the LORD has said, among the remnant whom the LORD calls.
- Revelation 11:15 ¹⁵Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “*The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!*”

References to Jonah

- Jonah 1:1** ¹Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying ...
- 2 Kings 14:25 ²⁵He [Jeroboam] restored the territory of Israel from the entrance of Hamath to the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the LORD God of Israel, which He had spoken through His *servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet who was from Gath Hepher.*
- Jonah 1:17** ¹⁷Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.
- Jonah 3:4-5** ⁴And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk. Then he cried out and said, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them.
- Matthew 12:39-41 ³⁹But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except *the sign of the prophet Jonah.* ⁴⁰*For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.* ⁴¹*The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.*"
- Matthew 16:4 ⁴"A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except *the sign of the prophet Jonah.*" And He left them and departed.
- Luke 11:29-30, 32 ²⁹And while the crowds were thickly gathered together, He began to say, "This is an evil generation. It seeks a sign, and no sign will be given to it except *the sign of Jonah the prophet.* ³⁰*For as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so also the Son of Man will be to this generation....* ³²*The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.*"

References to Malachi

- Malachi 1:2-3** ²"I have loved you," says the LORD. "Yet you say, 'In what way have You loved us?' Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" says the LORD. "Yet Jacob I have loved; ³But Esau I have hated, and laid waste his mountains and his heritage for the jackals of the wilderness."
- Romans 9:12-13 ¹²...it was said to her [Rebekah], "The older shall serve the younger." ¹³As it is written, "*Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.*"

Minor Prophets: Obadiah, Jonah, Malachi

- Malachi 3:1** ¹“Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts.
- Matthew 11:9-10 ⁹“But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰For this is he of whom it is written: ‘*Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.*’”
- Mark 1:2-4 ²As it is written in the Prophets: “*Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.*” ³“The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight.’” ⁴John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.
- Malachi 4:5-6** ⁵Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.
- Matthew 17:10-13 ¹⁰And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” ¹¹Jesus answered and said to them, “Indeed, *Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.* ¹²But I say to you that *Elijah has come already*, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands.” ¹³Then the disciples understood that He spoke to them of John the Baptist.
- Mark 9:11-13 ¹¹And they asked Him, saying, “Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” ¹²Then He answered and told them, “Indeed, *Elijah is coming first and restores all things.* And how is it written concerning the Son of Man, that He must suffer many things and be treated with contempt? ¹³But I say to you that *Elijah has also come*, and they did to him whatever they wished, as it is written of him.”
- Luke 1:13-17 ¹³But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.... ¹⁶And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. ¹⁷*He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, ‘to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,’ and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.*”

Key Dates and Events (931-444 BC)

| | |
|------------|---|
| 931 BC | Separation of Northern/Southern Kingdoms; Jeroboam I – King of Israel |
| 885-841 BC | Israel: The Dynasty of Omri (4 generations) |
| 874-853 BC | Israel: Ahab and Jezebel - ministry of Elijah |
| 841-753 BC | Israel: The Dynasty of Jehu (5 generations) |
| 790-739 BC | Judah: Reign of Uzziah |
| 793-753 BC | Israel: Reign of Jeroboam II |
| 753-722 BC | Israel: Reigns of six last kings of Israel |
| 750-715 BC | Judah: Reigns of Jotham and Ahaz (ministries of Micah and Isaiah) |
| 734-732 BC | Rebellion of Israel and Damascus; Siege of Jerusalem; Campaign of Tiglath-pileser III |
| 728-686 BC | Judah: Reign of Hezekiah (ministries of Micah and Isaiah) |
| 724-722 BC | Siege of Samaria by Shalmaneser V; fall of Samaria; end of Israel |
| 722-705 BC | Deportation of Israel under Sargon II; Hezekiah's religious reforms; Submission to Sargon II |
| 705-701 BC | Alliance revolts against Sennacherib |
| 701 BC | Campaign of Sennacherib in Judah |
| 697-642 BC | Reign of Manasseh; Religious apostasy |
| 648 BC | Conquest of Babylon by Ashurbanipal |
| 640 BC | Assassination of Amon; 8-yr old Josiah made king of Judah |
| 632 BC | Josiah at age 16 begins to seek the Lord |
| 628 BC | Josiah's first public reform movement |
| 627 BC on | Death of Ashurbanipal; Weakening of Assyria |
| 626 BC | Babylonian independence under Nabopolassar |
| 622 BC | Discovery of the book of the law; Josiah's thorough reform movement |
| 612 BC | Fall of Nineveh to Medes and Babylonians |
| 609 BC | Fall of Haran to Babylonians; End of Assyria; Death of Josiah at Megiddo; Egypt in control of Judah |
| 605 BC | Nebuchadnezzar becomes king of Babylonian Empire; Battle of Carchemish; 1st Captivity of Judah (Daniel) |
| 597 BC | Siege of Jerusalem; Jehoiachin deported in 2nd Captivity (Ezekiel) |
| 587 BC | Siege of Jerusalem; Destruction of Temple and Jerusalem; 3rd Captivity - end of Judah |
| 562 BC | Death of Nebuchadnezzar |
| 539 BC | Fall of Babylon to Cyrus of Medo-Persia; End of Babylonian Empire; return to Jerusalem begins |
| 538 BC | First return to Jerusalem under Zerubbabel; erection of altar |
| 536 BC | Work on Temple begun and stopped |
| 530 BC | Death of Cyrus |
| 522-486 BC | Reign of Darius Hystaspes |
| 520 BC | Work on Temple resumes under ministry of Haggai and Zechariah |
| 516 BC | Work on Temple completed |
| 458 BC | Second return to Jerusalem under Ezra |
| 444 BC | Nehemiah rebuilds the walls of Jerusalem |

Minor Prophets: Obadiah, Jonah, Malachi

Kings and Prophets – 10th-5th Century BC

| Assyria Kings | Israel Kings | Judah Kings/Leaders | Prophets (rough dates) |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Jeroboam I 931-910 | Rehoboam 931-913 | |
| | Nadab 910-909 | Abijam 913-911 | |
| | Baasha 909-886 | Asa 911-870 | |
| | Elah/Zimri 886-885 | | |
| | Omri 885-874 | | |
| | Ahab 874-853 | Jehoshaphat 873-848 | Elijah 875-850 |
| | Ahaziah 853-852 | Jehoram 853-841 | Obadiah? c. 850? |
| Shalmaneser III 859-824 | Jehoram 852-841 | Ahaziah 841 | Elisha 850-800 |
| Shamsi-adad V 824-810 | Jehu 841-814 | Athaliah 841-835 | |
| Adad-nirari III 810-783 | Jehoahaz 814-798 | Joash 835-796 | Joel c. 830-800? |
| Shalmaneser IV 783-773 | Jehoash 798-782 | Amaziah 796-767 | |
| Ashurdan III 773-755 | Jeroboam II 793-753 | Uzziah 790-739 | Jonah 785-750 |
| Ashur-nirari V 755-745 | Zechariah 753 | | Amos 785-750 |
| | Shallum 752 | | |
| Tiglath-pileser III 745-727 | Menahem 752-742 | Jotham 750-731 | Hosea 755-723 |
| | Pekahiah 742-740 | Ahaz 743-715 | |
| Shalmaneser V 727-722 | Pekah 752-732 | | Isaiah 739-680 |
| Sargon III 722-705 | Hoshea 732-722 | Hezekiah 728-686 | Micah 735-690 |
| Sennacherib 705-681 | | | |
| | | Manasseh 697-642 | Nahum 650-640 |
| | | Amon 642-640 | |
| Babylon Kings | | | |
| Nabopolassar 626-605 | | Josiah 640-609 | Zephaniah 630-612 |
| | | Jehoahaz 609 | Jeremiah 627-585 |
| Nebuchadnezzar 605-562 | | Jehoiakim 609-597 | Habakkuk 608-605 |
| Evil-Merodach 562-560 | | Jehoiachin 597 | Daniel 605-535 |
| Neriglissar 560-556 | | Zedekiah 597-586 | Ezekiel 597-550 |
| Labashi-Marduk 556 | Persia Kings | | Obadiah? c. 585? |
| Nabonidus & Belshazzar 556-539 | Cyrus 550-530 | Zerubbabel 538-? | |
| | Cambyses 530-522 | | |
| | Smerdis 522 | | Haggai 520 |
| | Darius 522-486 | | Zechariah 520-500 |
| | Xerxes 486-465 | Ezra 458-? | |
| | Artaxerxes 465-424 | Nehemiah 445-? | Malachi 432-424 |

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