

Message Meditation

January 25, 2015

Text: Obadiah

Message Meditation:

1. God's word to Edom: Judgment is coming against them.
 - a. War (v.1); Despised (v.2); Deceived (v.3); brought down (v.4).
 - b. Thieves and harvesters don't take everything. Edom will be plundered completely (v.5-6).
 - c. Allies will become enemies (v.7).
 - d. God will act against them (v.8-9).
2. Edom's evil activity:
 - a. No help to their brothers (Israel) in their time of distress (v.10-11)
 - b. Joined in with Israel's enemies (v.11).
 - c. Gloated and rejoiced in Israel's fall (v.12-13).
 - d. Looted Israel after their defeat (v.13).
 - e. Violently handed over fugitives to their captives (v.14).
3. As certain as Edom's non-existence today is the coming day of the Lord's judgment upon all the nations (v.15)!
 - a. The coming day of the Lord will be a day of divine retributive justice (v.15-16).
 - b. The day of justice upon the nations will also be a day of escape for God's people (v.17-18).
4. Jerusalem will endure forever. In the New Heavens and New Earth, Jerusalem will possess all the promised land and the nations will bring their glory into it. (v.19-21).
5. The Kingdom shall be the Lords! (v.21)

Message Application:

1. What we learn about God:
 - a. God does what He says.
 - b. God is able to discipline and defend His people.
 - c. God loves justice and mercy.
 - d. God rules over the nations that presently rule over us.
2. What we learn for ourselves:
 - a. Our greatest need is to be a citizen in God's Kingdom.
 - i. We were born citizens of an earthly kingdom.
 - ii. We must be born again, born from above, to be a citizen in God's Kingdom.
 - iii. Jesus makes rebirth possible. Jesus is the object of our faith. Jesus is our eternal hope.
 - b. As God's kingdom citizens, our greatest priority is to represent God and the values of His kingdom no matter the kingdom we find ourselves living in today.
 - i. 1 Peter 2:9-17; Romans 12-13

3. Questions for personal application:

- a. How does pride lead us to placing our trust in something other than God?
- b. What are the particular challenges of living as a citizen in God's kingdom as an earthly citizen of a powerful nation in the present world scene?
How would those challenges be different if we were a citizen in a nation that has no power or global significance?
- c. What are some values that you hold to and strongly defend that may not be a significant value in God's kingdom?
What are some values of God's kingdom that need a higher place in your life?