Discussion Guide: Obadiah - Part 2

Let us examine the Scriptures like the Bereans who "received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true." Acts 17:11 (NIV)

January 18, 2004: "Obadiah - Part 2" by Pastor Kimber Kauffman, Senior Pastor College Park Church. Pastor continued his series on the book of Obadiah...God's judgment on the Edomites. The people of Edom were cousins of Jacob and treated them badly beginning when the children of Israel requested passage through their country in Numbers 20:14-21. This began the split between the two nations that ended up with their evil treatment of God's chosen people when taken captive by Babylon.

Pastor reviewed his six application points from his message January 11th with emphasis on examining our own lives and becoming actively involved in making a difference for Christ in the world.

In verse 3 we see that God searches the heart and knows our thoughts and motives. The Sovereign LORD said, "The pride of your heart had deceived you." The Edomites, by their actions, apparently thought it didn't matter how they treated others. But pride leads to deception...and they were about to be judged harshly in like manner (v15).

In verses 11-14 we learn that God was displeased with the Edomites when they...

- stood by and did nothing when injustices were being done,
- fraternized with the enemy and became like them,
- looked down upon on those who were being treated unfairly,
- rejoiced and boasted when others came under God's judgment,
- moved in and plundered what remained after their kin were taken captive,
- setup road blocks and helped the captors in capturing their kin,

Discussion Questions:

- 1. The Edomites trusted that they were untouchable, and no one could do them harm, but they were deceived for God's judgment knows no bounds. In what do we as a nation put our trust? Are we being deceived into thinking that God will not bring judgment upon us when we disobey him and do not do what he commands of us? What can we do for our nation? What will you do?
- 2. In what ways have you seen pride manifested in your own life and/or in the life of others? What have been the results? What can be done to counteract such thoughts, attitudes and actions?
- 3. What should we do when we see or hear about social injustices being done? What will you do the next time such things comes to your awareness?
- 4. What should we do when we see or hear of fellow believers being treated badly? (i.e., fellow Christians abroad, those in our own country, those in our own fellowship of believers, etc.). What will you do the next time this comes to your awareness?

Let's be people that do what Jesus said we should do.

Practice Godliness and Holiness in everything you do (Pastor Kimber).