

## MESSAGES FROM GOD IN OBADIAH AND JOEL

Obadiah 1

Joel 1-3

### Awareness

Before listening, reflect:

- How would you explain the role of an Old Testament prophet?
- What is judgment? When you hear the word “judgment” what is the first thought that comes to your mind? What feelings bubble to the surface?

Reading through the books of Obadiah and Joel can at times feel overwhelming. Through these two prophets, God casts judgment on the people of Israel for their unjust and unrepentant lifestyles. However, God also offers hope and a promise of restoration to his people through these prophets. Join us as we study Obadiah and Joel through the lens of God’s redemptive work in Jesus Christ. Together, we’ll be challenged to examine our own hearts and encouraged to remember that ultimately, God’s grace and mercy will have the last word.

**Listen:** [\*Messages from God in Obadiah and Joel\*](#)

### Reflection

After listening, consider:

- Through his prophets, God always offers hope for restoration. What does this tell you about God’s character? How does this truth benefit or encourage your faith today?
- Read Obadiah 1. Where in the passage do you find rays of hope? Why do you think these words offered hope to the original audience? How do they encourage your faith now?
- When Joel prophesied, Israel was experiencing restoration and even fulfilling the prophecies of earlier prophets as they returned from exile. Why do you think God is telling this returning generation to repent and rend their hearts? What can this message also teach us about our relationship with God?
- Throughout the episode, Darrell and Scott identify the following themes in Obadiah and Joel: injustice, God’s judgment, hope, and restoration. If Obadiah and Joel addressed the Church on God’s behalf today, do you think their message would be the same or different? Why?

### Related Passages

- **Deuteronomy 28**
- **Isaiah 49:6**
- **Galatians 6:16**
- **Genesis 12:1-3**

- **Romans 3:21-24**
- **Psalm 145:8-9**
- **Jeremiah 31:1-26**
- **Acts 2:14-41**
- **John 1:5**

## **Conclusion**

At the end of the episode, Scott and Darrell summarize two main takeaways from Obadiah and Joel:

1. Sin is serious, God is holy and cannot ignore sin, he must render judgment.
2. Judgment is not the last word, God's grace and mercy have and will have the last word.

As you reflect on these two truths, consider the following questions:

1. If Jesus Christ conquered sin and death, why do we still need to be reminded about the seriousness of sin?
2. In what areas of your life does it encourage you and give you hope to remember that even if judgment is necessary, God's grace and mercy will ultimately have the last word?

Close your time of reflection in prayer. Use your own words or the words of Psalm 139 and conclude with praise and thanks to God for his grace and mercy in Jesus Christ.

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