

# Pentwater Bible Church

*Isaiah Message 44*  
*November 10, 2019*



Esau Sells His Birthright to Jacob by Jacob van Zeunen Cir. 1650

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**The Book of Isaiah**  
**Message Forty-Four**  
JUDGMENT ON EDOM  
**November 10, 2019**  
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Isaiah 21:11–12

*<sup>11</sup>The burden of Dumah. One calleth unto me out of Seir, Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? <sup>12</sup>The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will inquire, inquire ye: turn ye, come (ASV, 1901).*



From <http://www.bible-history.com/maps/edomites.html>

Edom, is referred to here as Seir and Dumah. Dumah is a word with a double meaning. Dumah was a region of Idumea, also called Edom, near the mountain of Seir. Today this region is Southern Jordan. The root letters of the Hebrew word, Dumah means “silence,” so Dumah means “a place of silence.” Dumah therefore symbolizes the destiny of Edom, the hereditary enemy of Israel. It will one day become a silent, and forgotten place. The prophet hears a voice coming from Seir with the anxious query: how far is the night spent? When will morning come? The watchman, who is the prophet himself, then answers the rhetorical questions he has just asked: “The morning will come,

but then night will fall again.” The prophet uses two words which are not Hebrew but Aramaic. The first is *atha* to come (as in Maran-atha—The Lord come), and *Thibayun*, to inquire. It is related to the Hebrew *shuv* to return. Aramaic, a language closely related to the Babylonian and other Semitic tongues, was a common language of the Middle East. The sense of the prophet’s answer is: The night of your present will end, and a new day will follow, but soon another night will come filled with fear and anxiety. If you seek a comforting answer to your anxious inquiries, you first “return,” a word which also means “to repent.” Only then will the answer you hoped for; the night of your suffering will come an end, and a new bright morning of deliverance will dawn upon. The Edomite inquirer voices man's eternally agonizing question: How long will the night of suffering, evil and violence last; how soon will come?” It has a universal significance. It is the cry of mankind in the midst of a nightmare of mutuality inflicted torment and endless horror for most of the world outside of Christ.

The prophetic answer given to the Edomites and to every one of the world’s generations is come back to God, *shuvu* return and repent. Otherwise there can only be one dark night of horror followed by another, with only brief intervals between. In those intervals you will be in torment until you repent and turn to God for forgiveness.

#### WHAT DID THEY DO TO CAUSE GOD TO MAKE THIS OFFER?

Every one of the Arab nations have caused pain and suffering to the Jews. There are no exceptions. In fact, the Psalmist characterizes the Jews pain as they cry out to God for vengeance on those nations.

#### Psalm 83:1–8

*<sup>1</sup>O God, keep not thou silence: Hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God. <sup>2</sup>For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult; And they that hate thee have lifted up the head. <sup>3</sup>They take crafty counsel against thy people, And. consult together against thy hidden ones. <sup>4</sup>They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; That the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. <sup>5</sup>For they have consulted together with one consent; Against thee do they make a covenant: <sup>6</sup>The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab, and the Hagarenes; <sup>7</sup>Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; Philistia with the inhabitants of Tyre: <sup>8</sup>Assyria also is joined with them; They have helped the children of Lot. Selah (ASV, 1901).*

#### WHO THESE ANCIENT NATIONS ARE TODAY?

Edom	Southern Jordan
Ishmaelites	Ishmael was a son of Abraham born to Hagar
Moab	Central Jordan
Hagarenes	Egypt
Gebal	Lebanon
Ammon	Northern Jordan
Amalek	The Sinai Peninsula
Philistia	The Gaza Strip
Tyre	Lebanon
Assyria	Iraq and parts of Syria

## GOD PROMISED TO EXTRACT VENGEANCE ON NATIONS WHO HARMED THE JEWS

Genesis 12:1–3

*<sup>1</sup>Now Jehovah said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto the land that I will show thee: <sup>2</sup>and I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and be thou a blessing: <sup>3</sup>and I will bless them that bless thee, and him that curseth thee will I curse: and in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed (ASV, 1901).*

This is the first stage of the Abrahamic Covenant. God also promised to give Abraham a special son to carry on that covenant. Because his wife Sarah tired of waiting she suggested that he have a child with her handmaid Hagar. Ishmael was the result. Later, Isaac the child of promise was born to Sarah and Abraham. Ishmael was characterized by God as a wild ass whose hand would be against everyone and especially against his brother (Genesis 16:12). He became the father of the Arab nations. This set the standard for the future constant war between the Arabs (the Ishmaelites) and the Jews (the descendants of Isaac).

Isaac and his wife Rebecca had twins, Jacob and Esau. Jacob received the covenant and Esau did not because he despised his birthright (Genesis 25:23). The Israelis (Jacob's descendants) and the Edomites (Esau's descendants) have fought continuously. Edom is the Hebrew name for red so they referred to him as Edom because he was born "red all over" (Genesis 25:25). Esau's descendants became additional peoples of the Arab nations. Esau attempting to retaliate against his father Isaac for not becoming the covenant heir married a Canaanite woman against his father's wishes. She was Ishmael's daughter Mahalath that made the Arab alliance against Israel stronger. Esau's Wives and Children settled in the Mountains of Seir. *Edom* or Esau, became the national designation of his descendants and the region in which they settled. Esau/Edom joining the Ishmaelites brought additional strength to the forces opposing Israel. Even though Jacob and Esau later made peace it was clear that they did not trust one another (Genesis 32:3-21). This mistrust was conveyed to successive generations in Edom and through that they persecuted the Jews in many instances. God has given them time to repent and they never have. He is causing their sleepless nights to think of repenting. Because it is clear that they will not therefore, He will bring judgment upon them.

## THE PROPHECY AGAINST EDM

EZEKIEL 25:12–14

*<sup>12</sup>Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Because that Edom hath dealt against the house of Judah by taking vengeance, and hath greatly offended, and revenged himself upon them; <sup>13</sup>therefore thus saith the Lord Jehovah, I will stretch out my hand upon Edom, and will cut off man and beast from it; and I will make it desolate from Teman; even unto Dedan shall they fall by the sword. <sup>14</sup>And I will lay my vengeance upon Edom by the hand of my people Israel; and they shall do in Edom according to mine anger and according to my wrath; and they shall know my vengeance, saith the Lord Jehovah (ASV, 1901).*

## Ezekiel 35:1-5

*<sup>1</sup>Moreover the word of Jehovah came unto me, saying, <sup>2</sup>Son of man, set thy face against mount Seir, and prophesy against it, <sup>3</sup>and say unto it, Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: Behold, I am against thee, O mount Seir, and I will stretch out my hand against thee, and I will make thee a desolation and an astonishment. <sup>4</sup>I will lay thy cities waste, and thou shalt be desolate; and thou shalt know that I am Jehovah. <sup>5</sup>Because thou hast had a perpetual enmity, and hast given over the children of Israel to the power of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time of the iniquity of the end (ASV, 1901).*

This prophecy is an expansion of that which the Lord gave Ezekiel in chapter 25:12-14. Edom is characterized here by the mountain range on the east border of the Wadi Arabah south of the Dead Sea. Edom is a prototype of all Gentile nations in general and more specifically the Arab States. Ezekiel is commanded to convey a prophecy of God to the nation of Edom emphasizing His desire to destroy Edom as a judgment for the way in which they have historically treated Israel.

God through Obadiah prophesied that God would destroy the nation of Edom because of its pride and violence, particularly in looking down on Judah's misfortune, and mentioning their dealings with the Babylonians to cause harm to the Jews (Psalm 137). They helped the Babylonians in the 586 B.C. invasion.

When determining the degree of judgment against those who have come against the Nation Israel God seems to consider at least two factors. First their history and degree of hatred toward the Jews and second how closely they are related by blood to Israel.

## Obadiah 10-14

*<sup>10</sup>For the violence done to thy brother Jacob, shame shall cover thee, and thou shalt be cut off for ever. <sup>11</sup>In the day that thou stoodest on the other side, in the day that strangers carried away his substance, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem, even thou wast as one of them. <sup>12</sup>But look not thou on the day of thy brother in the day of his disaster, and rejoice not over the children of Judah in the day of their destruction; neither speak proudly in the day of distress. <sup>13</sup>Enter not into the gate of my people in the day of their calamity; yea, look not thou on their affliction in the day of their calamity, neither lay ye hands on their substance in the day of their calamity. <sup>14</sup>And stand thou not in the crossway, to cut off those of his that escape; and deliver not up those of his that remain in the day of distress (ASV, 1901).*

## GOD'S JUDGMENT OF PERPETUAL DESOLATION

### Ezekiel 35:6-9

*<sup>6</sup>Therefore, as I live, saith the Lord Jehovah, I will prepare thee unto blood, and blood shall pursue thee: since thou hast not hated blood(shed), therefore blood shall pursue thee. <sup>7</sup>Thus will I make mount Seir an astonishment and a desolation; and I will cut off from it him that passeth through and him that returneth. <sup>8</sup>And I will fill its mountains with its slain: in thy hills and in thy valleys and in all thy watercourses shall they fall that are slain with the sword. <sup>9</sup>I will make thee a perpetual desolation, and thy cities shall not be inhabited; and ye shall know that I am Jehovah (ASV, 1901).*

God says that the destruction will be total and He will leave their mountains, hills, valleys and the watercourses strewn with bodies and blood. This is a massive degree of destruction on Edom. Edom was considered Israel's most bitter enemy primarily due to the closeness of the association by blood, that is, the warring twins Jacob and Esau (Edom). God says that this, because they have not had a hatred of bloodshed, those upon whom they have shed blood will pursue them. This is apparent as we can see from many sections of Scripture. For example:

1. Edom gave aid to Babylon (Ezekiel 35:5; Obadiah 1)
2. Tried to annex Israel's territory as her own (Ezekiel 35:10)
3. Vengeful joy over Judah and hatred (Ezekiel 35:12; Isaiah 34:5; 63:1-4; Psalm 137:7; Malachi 1:2-5)
4. Her perpetual enmity (Amos 1:11)
5. She refused the Jews in the Exodus safe passage into Canaan (Numbers 20:14-18)

This destruction will be total and there will be no nation call Edom in the Messianic Kingdom. The Lord will bring His wrath upon Edom in due time which will cause them to become a reproach, a waste and a curse (Jeremiah 49:19-20). This means that God will utilize an armed military conflict which, will probably come near the end of the Great Tribulation when all armies of the world come toward Jerusalem to attempt to destroy it (Zechariah 14:2). This is not to say that God has not caused them to receive partial judgment in the past. For example, their main cities were Petra and Teman both of which lie in ruins. Petra will be a place for the Jews to flee during the tribulation and the Lord will make His first stop there in the campaign of Armageddon. For now, it is a uninhabited ruin.

Edom was first subjugated by the Babylonians and then Media-Persia and then in 126 B.C. they were compelled to become Jews by the Hasmonean John Hyrcanus. There is no easily identifiable trace of Edomites now although their abandoned cities can still be identified. But God knows who they are and they will be destroyed.

#### TWO NATIONS WERE DESIRED

Ezekiel 35:10-11

*<sup>10</sup>Because thou hast said, These two nations and these two countries shall be mine, and we will possess it; whereas Jehovah was there: <sup>11</sup>therefore, as I live, saith the Lord Jehovah, I will do according to thine anger, and according to thine envy which thou hast showed out of thy hatred against them; and I will make myself known among them, when I shall judge thee (ASV, 1901).*

God speaks of the two nations of Israel and Judah which He says Edom wanted to possess. Edom wanted to take the land that they thought should rightfully be theirs due to their view of Jacob's deception of Esau and then Isaac (Genesis 27:1-40). This jealousy led them to desire Israel's land both the north and the south. They seemed to think by aiding the Babylonians that they would be able to take the Jews land after the final Babylonian captivity. Since God hears and knows everything He knew that the Edomites wanted the northern and southern Kingdoms of Israel. Therefore, He said that He would do to them exactly what they intended to do to the Jews. In fact, when he brings judgment upon them they will realize just who is doing it to them. God says that vengeance belongs to Him, He will repay (Deuteronomy 32:35; Romans 12:19). In their envy to possess something that

God gave to somebody else namely the Jews they lusted after it and were willing to murder to obtain it.

James 4:2-3

*<sup>2</sup> Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. <sup>3</sup> Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts (KJV).*

Lust, envy or jealousy is an ungodly fruit of the flesh. It always comes from the unsaved natural man that does not have the Holy Spirit living within. Additionally, if a believer is not walking in the Spirit then the old man takes precedence and one exhibits envy. The fruits of the flesh are driven from the satanic unsaved person, whether they realize and acknowledge it or not.

Galatians 5:16-21

*<sup>16</sup> I say then, walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh. These are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are revealed, which are these: adultery, sexual immorality, impurity, lewdness, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hatred, strife, jealousy, rage, selfishness, dissensions, heresies, <sup>21</sup> envy, murders, drunkenness, carousing, and the like. I warn you, as I previously warned you, that those who do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God (MEV).*

It is really clear that Edom will not be going in to the Messianic Kingdom when God establishes it.

EDOM'S SINS ARE AGAINST GOD

Ezekiel 35:12-13

*<sup>12</sup> And thou shalt know that I, Jehovah, have heard all thy revilings which thou hast spoken against the mountains of Israel, saying, They are laid desolate, they are given us to devour. <sup>13</sup> And ye have magnified yourselves against me with your mouth, and have multiplied your words against me: I have heard it (ASV, 1901).*

God says He heard all their revilings. The word revilings is more accurately translated as blasphemies from the Hebrew word *neatzah*. It has the characteristic of being provoking with reproachful accursing speech. Now the Jews are the apple of His eye. Anyone who harms the Jews will receive personal harm from God Himself. He proclaimed this in Genesis 12:3 to Abraham in the covenant He gave to him. He later also affirmed it through Zechariah.

Zechariah 2:8-9

*<sup>8</sup> For thus saith Jehovah of hosts: After glory hath he sent me unto the nations which plundered you; for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye. <sup>9</sup> For, behold, I will shake my hand over them, and they shall be a spoil to those that served them; and ye shall know that Jehovah of hosts hath sent me (ASV, 1901).*

As God states His love for Israel, He also provides some personal insight into that relationship with these verses. The one who speaks is a Divine being who brings judgment to the nations and then comes to love and dwell with His people in Jerusalem. God says it is as if the pupil of His eye has been harmed indicating a very close and personal pain when anyone who harms the Jews. The Hebrew word used here literally means “the gate,” or the opening of the eye and that is the pupil of the eye. This is the aperture through which light and images pass through to the retina and is the tenderest part of the eye. We carefully guard this as very precious because the slightest injury can cause a loss that is irreplaceable. They will know who it is that they *have magnified yourselves against me with your mouth, and have multiplied your words against me*. All sin is against God. For those who harm Israel this sin is clearly directly against Him. In fact, as we see in Zechariah 2:8 Jehovah God is sending the second person of the Trinity to deal in judgment with those who harm Israel. This is none other than the Lord Jesus who will conduct the Tribulation, and bring judgment upon a despotic government who will implement the worst persecution of the Jewish people of all times (Revelation 5:1-19-21). Two thirds of them will die at the hands of the Antichrist’s armies and police brutality (Zechariah 13:8).

#### FINAL DESOLATION OF EDOM

Ezekiel 35:14-15

*<sup>14</sup>Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: When the whole earth rejoiceth, I will make thee desolate.*

*<sup>15</sup>As thou didst rejoice over the inheritance of the house of Israel, because it was desolate, so will I do unto thee: thou shalt be desolate, O mount Seir, and all Edom, even all of it; and they shall know that I am Jehovah (ASV, 1901).*

The time of the whole earth rejoicing is clearly the Messianic Kingdom when there is universal peace, security, safety and plenty of food. Edom will not be a nation at that time. They will be destroyed during the campaign of Armageddon and will not have a place in the Kingdom. Their destruction will finally provide peace between them and the nation Israel.

NEXT MESSAGE: WOE TO ARABIA

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