

“The Imminent Judgment”  
Obadiah 1:15-18  
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**1. The Day of the Lord is near**

a. The Day of the Lord is the day of God’s judgment

- i. <sup>15</sup> For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations. Ob 1:15 (ESV)
- ii. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. 2 Cor 5:10 (ESV)
- iii. Just as we appoint judges to review all of the evidence against a accused person, so God has appointed Christ to judge each one of us.
- iv. The reality of future judgment should be a powerful motivation for righteous living.

b. The Day of the Lord is imminent

- i. 1:15, near means it could happen at any moment
- ii. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. 2 Peter 3:10 (ESV)
- iii. The other day I was driving home from church and I watched a motorcyclist pass a car on a blind curve and speed off. I said to myself, he’ll not live long. I got a little farther on down hwy 5 and I saw him again. A Ford Expedition had hit him. I don’t know if he survived or not. Now I can’t see the future and I didn’t know that he would wreck that particular day, but I knew where his life was taking him. And I knew that if he didn’t slow down, the odds were stacked too high against him. His untimely death was likely, but Christ’s return is certain.
- iv. We need to prepare today, while we still can for the return of Christ.

c. The Day of the Lord will be universal

- i. <sup>15</sup> For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations. Ob 1:15 (ESV)
- ii. <sup>10</sup> For we must *all* appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. 2 Cor 5:10 (ESV)
- iii. There is no judgment on this earth as comprehensive as God’s judgment.
- iv. Don’t believe that you will be an exception to God’s judgment

## 2. We will all be judged based upon what we have done

### a. No actions, thoughts, or motivation will escape God's notice

- i. <sup>16</sup> on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus. Romans 2:16 (ESV)
- ii. Nobody knows everything you do, everything you think, and every reason you have. You can live a lie. You can sometimes even fool the closest people around you, but you will never get anything past God.
- iii. We should confess our sins to God and seek His forgiveness while we still can.

### b. Our judgment will be proportionate to our sin

- i. As you have done, it shall be done to you; Ob 1:15 (ESV)
- ii. <sup>12</sup> "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay everyone for what he has done. Rev 22:12 (ESV)
- iii. People often think that all sin is the same, but it is not.
- iv. We can have hope that people who have committed terrible sins against us, for which they have never repented will receive a just punishment

### c. Every person will answer for their own sin

- i. your deeds shall return on your own head Ob 1:15 (ESV)
- ii. <sup>10</sup> For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that *each one* may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. 2 Cor 5:10 (ESV)
- iii. You cannot claim the faith of someone and you cannot take any else's place.
- iv. We need to confess our sin now, before we have to answer for it.

## 3. Only God's people will escape His wrath

### a. There will be no exceptions to God's wrath

- i. <sup>15</sup> For the day of the LORD is near upon all the nations. Ob 1:15 (ESV)
- ii. <sup>25</sup> For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality. Col 3:25 (ESV)
- iii. Many people have lived privileged lives. It's hard for them to conceive of themselves as being like everyone else, but rest assured on that day there will be only two classes of people—those who trusted in Christ and those who didn't.
- iv. We need to be certain of our relationship with Christ.

- b. God's people will escape because of who they are and not because of what they have done.
  - i. <sup>18</sup> The house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau stubble; Ob 1:18 (ESV)
  - ii. we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.
  - iii. Romans 8:23 (ESV)
  - iv. Our entrance into Heaven will be based upon what Jesus did for us on the cross.
  - v. We need to place our faith in Christ alone.
- c. We may escape only through accepting Jesus Christ as our Savior
  - i. <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6 (ESV)