

## ~EDOM (1990)

(E'dom) [Red, Edomites, E'dom-ites]

- Seir and Edom
- Geographic Description
- Strategic Position
- The People Of Edom
- From Exodus To Close of Judean History
- Edom In Prophecy
- Later History And Disappearance

• **Edom** was the secondary name or byname given to Esau, Jacob's twin brother.

• And this is the history of Esau, that is to say; **Edom**. (Genesis 36:1)

• It was applied to him because of his selling his birthright for the **red** stew.

• So **Esau** said to Jacob; Quick, please, give me a swallow of the **red**, the **red** there, for I am tired! That is why his name was called **Edom**. (Genesis 25:30)

• To this Jacob said; Sell me, first of all, your right as firstborn! (Genesis 25:31)

• And Esau continued; Here I am simply going to die, and of what benefit to me is a birthright? (Genesis 25:32)

• And Jacob added; Swear to me first of all! And he proceeded to swear to him and to sell his right as firstborn to Jacob. (Genesis 25:33)

• And Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he went to eating and drinking. Then he got up and went his way. So Esau despised the birthright. (Genesis 25:34)

• Coincidentally, Esau at birth had had a very red color.

• Then the first came out red all over like an official garment of hair, so they called his name Esau. (Genesis 25:25)

- And a similar color prevailed in parts of the land he and his descendants later inhabited.

## • Seir and Edom

- Sometime during Jacob's 20-year stay in Haran, **Esau** or **Edom** had begun to establish himself in the land of Seir, the field of **Edom**.
- Then Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to **Esau** his brother to the land of Seir, the field of **Edom**. (**Genesis 32:3**)
- Thus, even before the death of his father.
- After that Isaac expired and died and was gathered to his people, old and satisfied with days, and **Esau** and Jacob his sons buried him. (**Genesis 35:29**)
- **Esau** was apparently beginning to fulfill Isaac's prophetic blessing, directing his attention away from the fertile soils around Hebron and, doubtless, beginning to live by his sword, along with the 400 men under his command.
- So in answer Isaac his father said to him; Behold, away from the fertile soils of the earth your dwelling will be found, and away from the dew of the heavens above. (**Genesis 27:39**)
- And by your sword you will live, and your brother you will serve. But it will certainly occur that, when you grow restless, you will indeed break his yoke off your neck. (**Genesis 27:40**)
- In time the messengers returned to Jacob, saying; We got to your brother **Esau**, and he is also on his way to meet you, and four hundred men with him. (**Genesis 32:6**)
- And he said; If **Esau** should come to the one camp and assault it, then there is certain to be a camp remaining to make an escape. (**Genesis 32:8**)
- The record indicates, however, that he still maintained residence or a base camp in the Hebron area, not transferring definitely to the mountainous region of Seir until after his father's death, **1738 B.C.E.** By then his family had grown and his possessions were great.
- After that **Esau** took his wives and his sons and his daughters and

- all the souls of his house and his herd and all his other beasts and all his wealth, which he had accumulated in the land of Canaan, and went to a land away from Jacob his brother. (**Genesis 36:6**)
- Because their goods had become too great for them to dwell together and the land of their alien residences was not able to sustain them as a result of their herds. (**Genesis 36:7**)
  - So **Esau** took up dwelling in the mountainous region of Seir. **Esau** is **Edom**. (**Genesis 36:8**)
  - The land of **Seir** had previously been the domain of Horites.
  - And the Horites in their mountain of **Seir**, down to Elparan, which is at the wilderness. (**Genesis 14:6**)
  - These are the sons of **Seir** the Horite, the inhabitants of the land, Lotan and Shobal and Zibeon and Anah (**Genesis 36:20**)
  - And Dishon and Ezer and Dishan. These are the sheiks of the Horite, the sons of **Seir**, in the land of **Edom**. (**Genesis 36:21**)
  - And the sons of Lotan came to be Hori and Hemam, and Lotan's sister was Timna. (**Genesis 36:22**)
  - And these are the sons of Shobal, Alvan and Manahath and Ebal, Shepho and Onam. (**Genesis 36:23**)
  - And these are the sons of Zibeon, Aiah and Anah. This is the Anah who found the hot springs in the wilderness while he was tending the asses for Zibeon his father. (**Genesis 36:24**)
  - And these are the children of Anah, Dishon and Oholibamah the daughter of Anah. (**Genesis 36:25**)
  - And these are the sons of Dishon, Hemdan and Eshban and Ithran and Cheran. (**Genesis 36:26**)
  - These are the sons of Ezer, Bilhan and Zaavan and Akan. (**Genesis 36:27**)
  - These are the sons of Dishan, Uz and Aran. (**Genesis 36:28**)
  - These are the sheiks of the Horite, Sheik Lotan, Sheik Shobal,

Sheik Zibeon, Sheik Anah. ([Genesis 36:29](#))

- Sheik Dishon, Sheik Ezer, Sheik Dishan. These are the sheiks of the Horite according to their sheiks in the land of Seir. ([Genesis 36:30](#))
- **But Esau's sons dispossessed the Horite sheiks and took over the region.**
- **And the Horites dwelt in Seir in former times, and the sons of Esau proceeded to dispossess them and to annihilate them from before them and to dwell in their place, just the same as Israel must do to the land that is his holding, which Yehowah will certainly give to them. ([Deuteronomy 2:12](#))**
- **Thereafter the land became known as the land of **Edom**, though the older name of Seir still continued to be in use.**
- **And **Edom** must become a possession, yes, Seir must become the possession of his enemies, while Israel is displaying his courage. ([Numbers 24:18](#))**

#### ·· **Geographic Description**

- **The territory of **Edom** extended about 160 kilometers (100 miles) from its frontier with Moab in the North, formed by the torrent valley of Zered, down to Elath (Eloth) on the Gulf of `Aqaba in the South.**
- **Then we turned and pulled away for the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea, just as Yehowah had spoken to me, and we were many days in going around Mount Seir. ([Deuteronomy 2:1](#))**
- **Finally Yehowah said this to me. ([Deuteronomy 2:2](#))**
- **You have gone around this mountain long enough. Change your direction to the north. ([Deuteronomy 2:3](#))**
- **And command the people, saying; You are passing along by the border of your brothers, the sons of **Esau**, who are dwelling in **Seir**, and they will be afraid because of you, and you must be very careful. ([Deuteronomy 2:4](#))**
- **Do not engage in strife with them, because I shall not give you of their land so much as the width of the sole of the foot, because I**

have given Mount **Seir** to **Esau** as a holding. (**Deuteronomy 2:5**)

- What food you may buy from them for money, you must eat, and also what water you may purchase from them for money, you must drink. (**Deuteronomy 2:6**)
- For Yehowah your God has blessed you in every deed of your hand. He well knows of your walking through this great wilderness. These forty years Yehowah your God has been with you. You have not lacked a thing. (**Deuteronomy 2:7**)
- So we passed on away from our brothers, the sons of **Esau**, who are dwelling in **Seir**, from the way of the Arabah, from Elath and from Ezion-geber. Next we turned and passed on by the way of the wilderness of Moab. (**Deuteronomy 2:8**)
- At this time rise and make your way across the torrent valley of Zered. Accordingly we went crossing the torrent valley of Zered. (**Deuteronomy 2:13**)
- And the days that we walked from Kadesh-barnea until we crossed the torrent valley of Zered were thirty-eight years, until all the generation of the men of war had come to their end from the midst of the camp, just as Yehowah had sworn to them. (**Deuteronomy 2:14**)
- And there was a fleet of ships that King Solomon made in Ezion-geber, which is by Eloth, upon the shore of the Red Sea in the land of **Edom**. (**1 Kings 9:26**)
- To the East, the **Edomite** domain apparently extended out to the edge of the Arabian Desert, while to the West it reached across the Arabah to the Wilderness of Zin and embraced the Negeb highlands region stretching from the Southwest corner of the Salt Sea on down to Kadesh-barnea. The western portion of Edom therefore came to form the Southeast boundary of Judah's territory.
- And the lot of the tribe of the sons of Judah by their families came to be to the boundary of **Edom**, the wilderness of Zin, to the Negeb at its southern end. (**Joshua 15:1**)
- And your south side must prove to be from the wilderness of Zin alongside **Edom**, and your south boundary must prove to be from the extremity of the Salt Sea on the east. (**Numbers 34:3**)

- The true heartland of the **Edomite** territory, however, evidently lay East of the Arabah, for here the high mountain range, with some points reaching an altitude of 1,700 meters (5,600 feet), receives some rainfall.
- This is because the land West of the Arabah, the Negeb, is considerably lower, allowing the remnants of Mediterranean storm clouds to pass over and reach the higher mountains of Edom, where they release some of their remaining moisture.
- Thus, archaeological investigations show a string of ancient settlements and fortresses along a narrow tongue of arable land on the highest part of the long mountainous tableland, or plateau, but these run out as one proceeds South toward the Gulf of `Aqaba.
- Modern Tafileh, about 30 kilometers (19 miles) South of the Dead (Salt) Sea, has large olive groves, though this is due in great measure to the flow of water from eight fine springs, only about 28 centimeters (11 inches) of rainfall being deposited annually.
- Though fertile land was in short supply, this rugged mountainous region held valuable deposits of copper and iron, mining and smelting were carried on around modern Feinan, some 48 kilometers (30 miles) South of the Dead Sea. Evidence can also be seen of the existence of ancient pine forests of considerable size.
- In harmony with the above, Moses, upon sending messengers to the king of **Edom**, spoke of the Israelite position at Kadesh-barnea as at the extremity of your territory, and when requesting permission for peaceful passage through **Edomite** territory, Moses referred to their fields, vineyards, and wells.
- Subsequently Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of **Edom**; This is what your brother Israel has said; You yourself well know all the hardship that has overtaken us. (**Numbers 20:14**)
- And our fathers proceeded to go down to Egypt, and we continued to dwell in Egypt many days, and the Egyptians began doing harm to us and our fathers. (**Numbers 20:15**)
- Finally we cried out to Yehowah and he heard our voice and sent an angel and brought us out of Egypt, and here we are in Kadesh,

a city at the extremity of your territory. (**Numbers 20:16**)

- Let us pass, please, through your land. We shall not pass through a field or a vineyard, and we shall not drink the water of a well. On the kings road we shall march. We shall not bend toward the right or the left, until we shall pass through your territory. (**Numbers 20:17**)

## · Strategic Position

- **Moses requested permission for Israel to travel over the kings road through Edom.**
- Let us pass, please, through your land. We shall not pass through a field or a vineyard, and we shall not drink the water of a well. On the kings road we shall march. We shall not bend toward the right or the left, until we shall pass through your territory. (**Numbers 20:17**)
- **This road, generally called the Kings Highway, may have run from the Gulf of `Aqaba on up to Damascus in Syria, following the edge of the high plateaus lining the East side of the Arabah when traversing Edom. Along it were to be found the major cities of Edom.**
- **When Bela died, Jobab son of Zerah from Bozrah began to reign instead of him.**  
(**Genesis 36:33**)
- **A route also led to the East from the Negeb through Ma`an on the edge of the Arabian Desert and connected there with another route running North and South. Over these roads passed rich cargoes from Egypt, Arabia, Syria, and Mesopotamia.**
- **Tolls collected from camel or donkey caravans traversing the roads likely contributed greatly to Edom's wealth. Weary desert travelers also may have paid for food and lodging upon reaching Edom.**
- **The steep escarpment, or wall of the plateau, that faced the Arabah gave the main stronghold of Edom excellent protection from that direction. The deep canyon of the torrent valley of Zered impeded invasion from Moab. Note, however;**
- **This is what Yehowah has said; On account of three revolts of Moab, and on account of four, I shall not turn it back, on account**

of his burning the bones of the king of **Edom** for lime. (**Amos 2:1**)

- **A chain of fortresses faced the desert to the more vulnerable East, providing defense against Midianite and other nomadic tribes. Additionally, the clefts that cut into the mountains and plateaus are generally walled in by unscalable red sandstone cliffs forming forbidding gorges.**
- **With good reason Yehowah's prophecy through Jeremiah speaks of the **Edomites** as confidently residing in the retreats of the crag, holding the height of the hill, and like an eagle in its nest.**
- **For **Edom** this is what Yehowah of armies has said; Is there no longer any wisdom in Teman? Has counsel perished from those having understanding? Has their wisdom gone to putrefying? (**Jeremiah 49:7**)**
- **The shuddering you caused has deceived you, the presumptuousness of your heart, O you who are residing in the retreats of the crag, holding the height of the hill. Although you build your nest high up just like an eagle, down from there I shall bring you, is the utterance of Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 49:16**)**

### ·· **The People Of Edom**

- **The **Edomites** as descendants of **Esau** were basically a Semitic race, but with a strong Hamitic strain. This was because two of Esau's wives were from Hamitic Canaanite stock, Hittite and Hivite, only one wife named was part Semitic, through Abraham's son Ishmael.**
- **Esau took his wives from the daughters of Canaan, Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite and Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, the granddaughter of Zibeon the Hivite. (**Genesis 36:2**)**
- **And Basemath, Ishmael's daughter, the sister of Nebaioth. (**Genesis 36:3**)**
- **If, as some scholars hold, the name Horite means simply cave dweller, **Esau's** Hivite wife Oholibamah, the daughter of Anah, may have come from the Horite dwellers of Seir.**
- ****Esau** took his wives from the daughters of Canaan, Adah the daughter of Elon the Hittite and Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, the granddaughter of Zibeon the Hivite. (**Genesis 36:2**)**



- **These are the sons of Seir the Horite, the inhabitants of the land: Lotan and Shobal and Zibeon and Anah (Genesis 36:20)**
- **And these are the sons of Zibeon, Aiah and Anah. This is the Anah who found the hot springs in the wilderness while he was tending the asses for Zibeon his father. (Genesis 36:24)**
- **And these are the children of Anah, Dishon and Oholibamah the daughter of Anah. (Genesis 36:25)**
- **At any rate, the Edomites, like Lot's descendants the Moabites and the Ammonites.**
- **He will also actually enter into the land of the Decoration, and there will be many lands that will be made to stumble. But these are the ones that will escape out of his hand, Edom and Moab and the main part of the sons of Ammon. (Daniel 11:41)**
- **Were related to the Israelites, and originally they also practiced circumcision.**
- **Look! Days are coming, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I will hold an accounting with everyone circumcised but still in uncircumcision. (Jeremiah 9:25)**
- **Upon Egypt and upon Judah and upon Edom and upon the sons of Ammon and upon Moab and upon all those with hair clipped at the temples who are dwelling in the wilderness, for all the nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in heart. (Jeremiah 9:26)**
- **There is where Edom, her kings and all her chieftains are, who, in their mightiness, were put with those slain by the sword, they themselves will lie down even with the uncircumcised ones and with those going down into the pit. (Ezekiel 32:29)**
- **Yehowah referred to them as Israel's brothers, and Edomite land rights were to be held inviolable by the Israelites advancing through the wilderness, since Yehowah had granted Edom's descendants Mount Seir as a holding.**
- **Then we turned and pulled away for the wilderness by the way of the Red Sea, just as Yehowah had spoken to me, and we were**

many days in going around Mount Seir. (**Deuteronomy 2:1**)

- Finally Yehowah said this to me. (**Deuteronomy 2:2**)
- You have gone around this mountain long enough. Change your direction to the north. (**Deuteronomy 2:3**)
- And command the people, saying; You are passing along by the border of your brothers, the sons of Esau, who are dwelling in Seir; and they will be afraid because of you, and you must be very careful. (**Deuteronomy 2:4**)
- Do not engage in strife with them, because I shall not give you of their land so much as the width of the sole of the foot, because I have given Mount Seir to Esau as a holding. (**Deuteronomy 2:5**)
- What food you may buy from them for money, you must eat, and also what water you may purchase from them for money, you must drink. (**Deuteronomy 2:6**)
- For Yehowah your God has blessed you in every deed of your hand. He well knows of your walking through this great wilderness. These forty years Yehowah your God has been with you. You have not lacked a thing. (**Deuteronomy 2:7**)
- So we passed on away from our brothers, the sons of Esau, who are dwelling in Seir, from the way of the Arabah, from Elath and from Ezion-geber. Next we turned and passed on by the way of the wilderness of Moab. (**Deuteronomy 2:8**)
- Originally formed into sheikdoms, the **Edomite** tribes later were organized under a kingdom. The royal line of succession indicates that the kings came from different tribes or sheikdoms, hence not taking the throne on a hereditary family basis.
- These are the sheiks of the sons of Esau. The sons of Eliphaz, Esau's firstborn, Sheik Teman, Sheik Omar, Sheik Zepho, Sheik Kenaz. (**Genesis 36:15**)
- Sheik Korah, Sheik Gatam, Sheik Amalek. These are the Sheiks of Eliphaz in the land of **Edom**. These are the sons by Adah. (**Genesis 36:16**)
- These are the sons of Reuel, Esau's son, Sheik Nahath, Sheik

- Zerah, Sheik Shammah, Sheik Mizzah. These are the sheiks of Reuel in the land of **Edom**. These are the sons by Basemath, Esau's wife. (**Genesis 36:17**)
- Finally these are the sons of Oholibamah, **Esau's** wife, Sheik Jeush, sheik Jalam, sheik Korah. These are the sheiks of Oholibamah the daughter of Anah, **Esau's** wife. (**Genesis 36:18**)
  - These are the sons of **Esau**, and these are their sheiks. He is **Edom**. (**Genesis 36:19**)
  - Now these are the kings who reigned in the land of **Edom** before any king reigned over the sons of Israel. (**Genesis 36:31**)
  - Some critics have viewed the reference at;
  - Now these are the kings who reigned in the land of **Edom** before any king reigned over the sons of Israel. (**Genesis 36:31**)
  - To the **Edomite** rulers as the kings who reigned in the land of **Edom** before any king reigned over the sons of Israel as an anachronism or as a later insertion. This is not the case, however, since Moses, the recorder of Genesis, already knew God's clear promise to Jacob or Israel, that kings will come out of your loins.
  - And God said further to him; I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and become many. Nations and a congregation of nations will proceed out of you, and kings will come out of your loins. (**Genesis 35:11**)
  - Moses himself foretold that Israel would eventually have a king.
  - Yehowah will march you and your king whom you will set up over you to a nation whom you have not known, neither you nor your forefathers, and there you will have to serve other gods, of wood and of stone. (**Deuteronomy 28:36**)
  - The **Greek Septuagint** contains an addition to;
  - And gradually Job died, old and satisfied with days. (**Job 42:17**)
  - That would identify Job with Jobab, the **Edomite** king of,
  - When Bela died, Jobab son of Zerah from Bozrah began to reign

instead of him.

([Genesis 36:33](#))

- **Job, however, was from the land of Uz, a name given originally to an Aramaean tribe and repeated in Aramaean Nahor's lineage.**
- **There happened to be a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man proved to be blameless and upright, and fearing God and turning aside from bad. ([Job 1:1](#))**
- **And the sons of Aram were Uz and Hul and Gether and Mash. ([Genesis 10:23](#))**
- **Now it came about after these things that the report got through to Abraham; Here Milcah herself has also borne sons to Nahor your brother. ([Genesis 22:20](#))**
- **Uz his firstborn and Buz his brother and Kemuel the father of Aram. ([Genesis 22:21](#))**
- **Exult and rejoice, O daughter of **Edom**, dwelling as you do in the land of Uz. To you also the cup will pass along. You will become drunk and show yourself in nakedness. ([Lamentations 4:21](#))**
- **Does speak of **Edom** as dwelling in the land of Uz, but this text, written many centuries after the probable time of Job's life, does not equate Uz with **Edom**, especially since, at;**
- **And all the mixed company, and all the kings of the land of Uz, and all the kings of the land of the Philistines and Ashkelon and Gaza and Ekron and the remnant of Ashdod. ([Jeremiah 25:20](#))**
- ****Edom** and Moab and the sons of Ammon. ([Jeremiah 25:21](#))**
- **The kings of the land of Uz are distinct from **Edom**. The text may rather indicate an extension of the Edomite domain.**

#### **See Also UZ 4**

- **On the other hand, it seems definite that one of the three companions who visited and criticized Job in his diseased state was an **Edomite**, namely, Eliphaz the Temanite.**
- **And three companions of Job got to hear of all this calamity that**

- had come upon him, and they proceeded to come, each one from his own place, Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite. So they met together by appointment to come and sympathize with him and comfort him. (**Job 2:11**)
- And the sons of Eliphaz came to be Teman, Omar, Zepho and Gatam and Kenaz. (**Genesis 36:11**)
  - When Jobab died, Husham from the land of the Temanites began to reign instead of him. (**Genesis 36:34**)
  - Teman is presented as a center of **Edomite** wisdom at;
  - For **Edom** this is what Yehowah of armies has said; Is there no longer any wisdom in Teman? Has counsel perished from those having understanding? Has their wisdom gone to putrefying? (**Jeremiah 49:7**)
  - The regular **Edomite** contact and communication with travelers from the Orient perhaps contributing to their reputation for wisdom.

#### · From Exodus To Close of Judean History

- The destruction of Pharaoh's forces and Israel's miraculous deliverance at the Red Sea had repercussions in **Edom**, as in all the region in and around Canaan.
- Peoples must hear, they will be agitated. Birth pangs must take hold on the inhabitants of Philistia. (**Exodus 15:14**)
- At that time the sheiks of **Edom** will indeed be disturbed. As for the despots of Moab, trembling will take hold on them. All the inhabitants of Canaan will indeed be disheartened. (**Exodus 15:15**)
- In the wilderness of the Sinai Peninsula, Israel's first armed opposition came from a far-ranging **Edomite** tribe, the Amalekites, a source of trouble for Israel throughout their history.
- And the Amalekites proceeded to come and fight against Israel in Rephidim. (**Exodus 17:8**)
- At this Moses said to Joshua; Choose men for us and go out, fight against the Amalekites. Tomorrow I am stationing myself

upon the top of the hill, with the rod of the true God in my hand.  
(Exodus 17:9)

- Then Joshua did just as Moses had said to him, in order to fight against the Amalekites, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. (Exodus 17:10)
- And it occurred that as soon as Moses would lift his hand up, the Israelites proved superior, but as soon as he would let down his hand, the Amalekites proved superior. (Exodus 17:11)
- When the hands of Moses were heavy, then they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat upon it, and Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on this side and the other on that side, so that his hands held steady until the sun set. (Exodus 17:12)
- Hence Joshua vanquished Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. (Exodus 17:13)
- Yehowah now said to Moses; Write this as a memorial in the book and propound it in Joshua's ears; I shall completely wipe out the remembrance of Amalek from under the heavens. (Exodus 17:14)
- And Moses proceeded to build an altar and to call its name Yehowah-nissi. (Exodus 17:15)
- Saying; Because a hand is against the throne of Yah, Yehowah will have war with Amalek from generation to generation. (Exodus 17:16)
- And Timna became the concubine of Eliphaz, Esau's son. In time she bore to Eliphaz Amalek. These are the sons of Adah, Esau's wife. (Genesis 36:12)
- Sheik Korah, Sheik Gatam, Sheik Amalek. These are the Sheiks of Eliphaz in the land of **Edom**. These are the sons by Adah. (Genesis 36:16)
- At the close of the period of wandering, Moses respectful request for safe conduct over the Kings Highway through **Edom** was rejected, and the unnamed Edomite king marshaled a strong force to block any Israelite intrusion.

- Subsequently Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of **Edom**; This is what your brother Israel has said; You yourself well know all the hardship that has overtaken us. (**Numbers 20:14**)
- And our fathers proceeded to go down to Egypt, and we continued to dwell in Egypt many days, and the Egyptians began doing harm to us and our fathers. (**Numbers 20:15**)
- Finally we cried out to Yehowah and he heard our voice and sent an angel and brought us out of Egypt, and here we are in Kadesh, a city at the extremity of your territory. (**Numbers 20:16**)
- Let us pass, please, through your land. We shall not pass through a field or a vineyard, and we shall not drink the water of a well. On the kings road we shall march. We shall not bend toward the right or the left, until we shall pass through your territory. (**Numbers 20:17**)
- However, **Edom** said to him; You must not pass through me, for fear I may come out with the sword to meet you. (**Numbers 20:18**)
- In turn the sons of Israel said to him; By the highway we shall go up, and if I and my livestock should drink your water, I shall also certainly give the value of it. I want nothing more than to pass through on my feet. (**Numbers 20:19**)
- Still he said; You must not pass through. With that **Edom** came on out to encounter him with a great many people and a strong hand. (**Numbers 20:20**)
- So **Edom** refused to grant Israel to pass through his territory. Hence Israel turned away from him. (**Numbers 20:21**)
- So, following Aaron's death at Mount Hor near the border of **Edom**.
- And the sons of Israel, the entire assembly, proceeded to pull away from Kadesh and come to Mount Hor. (**Numbers 20:22**)
- Then Yehowah said this to Moses and Aaron in Mount Hor by the border of the land of **Edom**. (**Numbers 20:23**)

- Aaron will be gathered to his people, for he will not enter into the land that I shall certainly give to the sons of Israel, on the ground that you men rebelled against my order respecting the waters of Meribah. (**Numbers 20:24**)
- Take Aaron and Eleazar his son and bring them up into Mount Hor. (**Numbers 20:25**)
- And strip Aaron of his garments, and you must clothe with them Eleazar his son, and Aaron will be gathered and must die there. (**Numbers 20:26**)
- So Moses did just as Yehowah had commanded, and before the eyes of all the assembly they went climbing Mount Hor. (**Numbers 20:27**)
- Then Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and clothed Eleazar his son with them, after which Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. And Moses and Eleazar came on down from the mountain. (**Numbers 20:28**)
- And all the assembly got to see that Aaron had expired, and all the house of Israel continued weeping for Aaron thirty days. (**Numbers 20:29**)
- Israel skirted **Edom's** heartland, camped by the torrent valley of Zered, and thereafter traveled North past Moab's eastern frontier.
- While they continued trekking from Mount Hor by the way of the Red Sea to go around the land of **Edom**, the soul of the people began tiring out because of the way. (**Numbers 21:4**)
- After that the sons of Israel pulled away and encamped in Oboth. (**Numbers 21:10**)
- Then they pulled away from Oboth and encamped in Iye-abarim, in the wilderness that is toward the front of Moab, toward the rising of the sun. (**Numbers 21:11**)
- From there they pulled away and took up camping by the torrent valley of Zered. (**Numbers 21:12**)
- From there they pulled away and went camping in the region of the Arnon, which is in the wilderness that extends from the



border of the Amorites, for the Arnon is the boundary of Moab, between Moab and the Amorites. (**Numbers 21:13**)

- When they walked on through the wilderness, they went their way around the land of **Edom** and the land of Moab, so that they went toward the rising of the sun as respects the land of Moab and took up camping in the region of the Arnon, and they did not come within the boundary of Moab, because Arnon was the boundary of Moab. (**Judges 11:18**)
- Then I sent messengers from the wilderness of Kedemoth to Sihon the king of Heshbon with words of peace, saying; (**Deuteronomy 2:26**)
- Let me pass through your land. Only on the road I shall walk. I shall not turn to the right or to the left. (**Deuteronomy 2:27**)
- What food you will sell me for money, I must eat, and what water you will give me for money, I must drink. Only let me pass through on my feet. (**Deuteronomy 2:28**)
- Just the same as the sons of Esau dwelling in Seir and the Moabites dwelling in Ar did to me, until I shall pass over the Jordan into the land that Yehowah our God is giving to us. (**Deuteronomy 2:29**)

### **See Also AMALEK, AMALEKITES**

- In the poetic blessing Moses pronounced over Israel before his death, he described Yehowah God as coming from Sinai, as having flashed forth from Seir, **Edom**, and as having beamed forth from the mountains of Paran. A similar description occurs in Barak and Deborah's song and in the prophecy of Habakkuk.
- And he proceeded to say Yehowah, from Sinai he came and he flashed forth from Seir upon them. He beamed forth from the mountainous region of Paran, and with him were holy myriads, at his right hand warriors belonging to them. (**Deuteronomy 33:2**)
- Yehowah, at your going forth from Seir, at your marching out of the field of **Edom**, earth rocked, heavens also dripped, clouds also dripped with water. (**Judges 5:4**)
- Mountains flowed away from the face of Yehowah, this Sinai

- away from the face of Yehowah, Israel's God. (**Judges 5:5**)
- God himself proceeded to come from Teman, even a Holy One from Mount Paran. His dignity covered the heavens, and with his praise the earth became filled. (**Habakkuk 3:3**)
  - As for his brightness, it got to be just like the light. He had two rays issuing out of his hand, and there the hiding of his strength was. (**Habakkuk 3:4**)
  - This prophetic portrayal thus evidently sets forth the arena, or theater, in which Yehowah had manifested himself to his newly formed nation, illuminating them as by flashes of light shining over the mountain peaks.
  - Israel had been commanded not to detest an **Edomite**, for he is your brother.
  - You must not detest an **Edomite**, for he is your brother. You must not detest an Egyptian, for you became an alien resident in his country. (**Deuteronomy 23:7**)
  - The sons that may be born to them as the third generation may come for themselves into the congregation of Yehowah. (**Deuteronomy 23:8**)
  - However, not only the aggressive Amalekite tribe, but **Edom** as a whole followed a course of opposition to Israel. Saul successfully waged war against them.
  - And Saul himself took the kingship over Israel and went warring round about against all his enemies, against Moab and against the sons of Ammon and against **Edom** and against the kings of Zobah and against the Philistines, and wherever he would turn he administered condemnation. (**1 Samuel 14:47**)
  - And he went on acting valiantly and proceeded to strike down Amalek and to deliver Israel out of the hand of their pillager. (**1 Samuel 14:48**)
  - Yet, Saul had an **Edomite**, Doeg, as head over his shepherds, and this man acted as informer to Saul against David. When Saul's men were averse to attacking the priests of Nob, Saul used Doeg to accomplish a wholesale massacre.

- **Now one of Saul's servants was there on that day, detained before Yehowah, and his name was Doeg the Edomite, the principal one of the shepherds that belonged to Saul. (1 Samuel 21:7)**
- **At this Doeg the Edomite, being stationed as he was over the servants of Saul, answered and said; I saw the son of Jesse come to Nob to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. (1 Samuel 22:9)**
- **And he proceeded to inquire of Yehowah for him, and provisions he gave him, and the sword of Goliath the Philistine he gave him. (1 Samuel 22:10)**
- **At once the king sent to call Ahimelech the son of Ahitub the priest and all the house of his father, the priests that were in Nob. So all of them came to the king. (1 Samuel 22:11)**
- **Saul now said; Listen, please, you son of Ahitub! to which he said; Here I am, my lord. (1 Samuel 22:12)**
- **And Saul went on to say to him; Why have you men conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, by your giving him bread and a sword, and there being an inquiry of God for him, to rise up against me as a liar in ambush the way it is this day? (1 Samuel 22:13)**
- **At this Ahimelech answered the king and said; And who among all your servants is like David, faithful, and the son-in-law of the king and a chief over your bodyguard and honored in your house? (1 Samuel 22:14)**
- **Is it today that I have started to inquire of God for him? It is unthinkable on my part! Do not let the king lay anything against his servant and against the entire house of my father, for in all this your servant did not know a thing small or great. (1 Samuel 22:15)**
- **But the king said; You will positively die, Ahimelech, you with all the house of your father. (1 Samuel 22:16)**
- **With that the king said to the runners stationed about him; Turn and put to death the priests of Yehowah, because their hand also is with David and because they knew that he was a runaway and**

- they did not disclose it to my ear! And the servants of the king did not want to thrust out their hand to assault the priests of Yehowah. (1 Samuel 22:17)
- Finally the king said to Doeg; You turn and assault the priests! Immediately Doeg the **Edomite** turned and himself assaulted the priests and put to death on that day eighty-five men bearing an ephod of linen. (1 Samuel 22:18)
  - David, as king, won a major victory over the **Edomites** in the Valley of Salt.
  - And David proceeded to make a name when he came back from striking down the **Edomites** in the Valley of Salt, eighteen thousand. (2 Samuel 8:13)
  - While the action provoking the battle is not stated, **Edomite** aggression was doubtless responsible, perhaps because the **Edomites** thought that David's campaigns into Syria had left the southern part of his kingdom vulnerable to invasion.
  - As for Abishai the son of Zeruiah, he struck down the **Edomites** in the Valley of Salt, eighteen thousand. (1 Chronicles 18:12)
  - And in the superscription of (Psalms Chapter 60), Abishai and Joab respectively are described as effecting the conquest of the **Edomites**. Since David was commander in chief and Joab was his principal general, while Abishai was a divisional commander under Joab, it can be seen how the accounts could differ in crediting the victory, depending upon the viewpoint taken, even as is the case in modern times.
  - Similarly the difference in figures in these texts is likely due to the narrators particular view of the different aspects or campaigns of the war.
  - And it came about when David struck down **Edom**, when Joab the chief of the army came up to bury those slain, that he tried to strike down every male in **Edom**. (1 Kings 11:15)
  - For it was six months that Joab and all Israel dwelt there until he had cut off every male in **Edom**. (1 Kings 11:16)

- At any rate, David stationed garrisons of Israelite troops throughout **Edom**, and **Edom's** remaining population became subject to Israel.
- And he kept garrisons placed in **Edom**. In all **Edom** he placed garrisons, and all the **Edomites** came to be servants of David, and Yehowah kept saving David wherever he went. (**2 Samuel 8:14**)
- So he put garrisons in **Edom**, and all the **Edomites** came to be David's servants. And Yehowah kept saving David wherever he went. (**1 Chronicles 18:13**)
- The yoke of Jacob now rested heavily on the neck of **Edom**, Esau.
- And by your sword you will live, and your brother you will serve. But it will certainly occur that, when you grow restless, you will indeed break his yoke off your neck. (**Genesis 27:40**)
- And **Edom** must become a possession, yes, Seir must become the possession of his enemies, while Israel is displaying his courage. (**Numbers 24:18**)

**See Also SALT, VALLEY OF**

- Solomon, who married **Edomite** women.
- And King Solomon himself loved many foreign wives along with the daughter of Pharaoh, Moabite, Ammonite, **Edomite**, Sidonian and Hittite women. (**1 Kings 11:1**)
- Made use of Israelite control over the **Edomite** coastal cities on the Red Sea, Eloth or Elath and Ezion-geber, for developing a shipping enterprise.
- And there was a fleet of ships that King Solomon made in Ezion-geber, which is by Eloth, upon the shore of the Red Sea in the land of **Edom**. (**1 Kings 9:26**)
- It was then that Solomon went to Ezion-geber and to Eloth upon the shore of the sea in the land of **Edom**. (**2 Chronicles 8:17**)
- And Hiram regularly sent to him by means of his servants ships and servants having a knowledge of the sea, and they would come with Solomon's servants to Ophir and take from there four

hundred and fifty talents of gold and bring it to King Solomon. (2 Chronicles 8:18)

- **Edom's** depleted male population was unable to lift off the Israelite yoke, though an escapee of royal blood, Hadad, did lead a resistance movement of some sort.
- And Yehowah began to raise up a resister to Solomon, namely, Hadad the **Edomite** of the offspring of the king. He was in Edom. (1 Kings 11:14)
- And it came about when David struck down **Edom**, when Joab the chief of the army came up to bury those slain, that he tried to strike down every male in **Edom**. (1 Kings 11:15)
- For it was six months that Joab and all Israel dwelt there until he had cut off every male in **Edom**. (1 Kings 11:16)
- And Hadad went running away, he and some **Edomite** men of the servants of his father with him, to come into Egypt, while Hadad was a young boy. (1 Kings 11:17)
- So they rose up out of Midian and came into Paran and took men with them from Paran and came into Egypt to Pharaoh the king of Egypt, who then gave him a house. Also, bread he assigned to him, and land he gave him. (1 Kings 11:18)
- And Hadad continued to find favor in the eyes of Pharaoh, so much that he gave him a wife, the sister of his own wife, the sister of Tahpenes the lady. (1 Kings 11:19)
- In time the sister of Tahpenes bore him Genubath his son, and Tahpenes got to wean him right inside the house of Pharaoh, and Genubath continued at the house of Pharaoh right among the sons of Pharaoh. (1 Kings 11:20)
- And Hadad himself heard in Egypt that David had lain down with his forefathers and that Joab the chief of the army had died. So Hadad said to Pharaoh; Send me away, that I may go to my own land. (1 Kings 11:21)
- But Pharaoh said to him; What are you in need of while with me that here you are seeking to go to your own land? To this he said; Nothing, but you ought to send me away without fail. (1

## **Kings 11:22)**

- **Whether this situation prevailed continuously for a full century after David's initial conquest cannot be said. The attack by the sons of Ammon, and Moab and the mountainous region of **Seir, Edom**.**
- **And it came about afterward that the sons of Moab and the sons of Ammon and with them some of the Ammonim came against Jehoshaphat in war. (2 Chronicles 20:1)**
- **So people came and told Jehoshaphat, saying; There has come against you a large crowd from the region of the sea, from **Edom**, and there they are in Hazazon-tamar, that is to say, En-gedi. (2 Chronicles 20:2)**
- **And now here the sons of Ammon, and Moab and the mountainous region of Seir, whom you did not allow Israel to invade when they were coming out of the land of Egypt, but they turned away from them and did not annihilate them. (2 Chronicles 20:10)**
- **And at the time that they started off with the joyful cry and praise, Yehowah set men in ambush against the sons of Ammon, Moab and the mountainous region of Seir who were coming into Judah, and they went smiting one another. (2 Chronicles 20:22)**
- **May have taken place before the combined assault by Judean, Israelite, and **Edomite** forces against Moab.**
- **And it came about that as soon as Ahab died, the king of Moab began to revolt against the king of Israel. (2 Kings 3:5)**
- **Consequently King Jehoram went out on that day from Samaria and mustered all Israel. (2 Kings 3:6)**
- **He went farther and now sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying; The king of Moab himself has revolted against me. Will you go with me to Moab in war? To this he said; I shall go. I am the same as you are, my people are the same as your people, my horses are the same as your horses. (2 Kings 3:7)**
- **And he went on to say; By which particular way shall we go up? So he said; By the way of the wilderness of **Edom**. (2 Kings 3:8)**

- And the king of Israel and the king of Judah and the king of **Edom** proceeded to go, and they kept going their way around for seven days, and there proved to be no water for the camp and for the domestic animals that were following their steps. (**2 Kings 3:9**)
- **Edom** apparently formed part of each triple alliance, fighting first on one side and then on the other. It is also stated that at some point in Jehoshaphat's reign **Edom** had no king, the land was ruled by a deputy, who evidently was answerable to the Judean throne, so Judah's access to the Gulf of `Aqaba and its port or ports was unobstructed.
- As regards a king, there was none in **Edom**, a deputy was king. (**1 Kings 22:47**)
- Jehoshaphat, for his part, made Tarshish ships to go to Ophir for gold, but they did not go, because the ships were wrecked at Ezion-geber. (**1 Kings 22:48**)
- With regard to the campaign against Moab, the predicted flooding of the previously dry torrent valley where the allied armies camped may have resulted from a desert thunderstorm on the higher plateau.
- Such storms in modern times can send torrents of water rushing down the wadis toward the Arabah. Or the water may have appeared by purely miraculous means.
- And he went on to say; This is what Yehowah has said; Let there be a making of this torrent valley full of ditches. (**2 Kings 3:16**)
- For this is what Yehowah has said; You men will not see a wind, and you will not see a downpour, yet that torrent valley will be filled with water, and you men will certainly drink from it, you and your livestock and your domestic animals. (**2 Kings 3:17**)
- And this will indeed be a trivial thing in the eyes of Yehowah, and he will certainly give Moab into your hand. (**2 Kings 3:18**)
- And you must strike down every fortified city and every choice city, and every good tree you should fell, and all the springs of water you should stop up, and every good tract of land you should mar with stones. (**2 Kings 3:19**)



- And it came about in the morning, at the time of the going up of the grain offering, that, look! Water was coming from the direction of **Edom**, and the land came to be filled with the water. (**2 Kings 3:20**)
- As regards all the Moabites, they heard that the kings had come up to fight against them. Consequently they called together men from as many as were girding on a belt and upward, and they began standing at the boundary. (**2 Kings 3:21**)
- When they got up early in the morning, the sun itself flashed upon the water, so that the Moabites from the opposite side saw the water red like blood. (**2 Kings 3:22**)
- And they began to say; This is blood! The kings have unquestionably been put to the sword, and they went striking one another down. So now, to the spoil, O Moab! (**2 Kings 3:23**)

#### See Also **MOAB, MOABITES**

- **Edom** revolted and threw off the Judean yoke in the reign of Jehoshaphat's son Jehoram and reestablished its independent monarchy. Although Jehoram won a military victory in an encounter with them, the **Edomites** remained in revolt.
- In his days **Edom** revolted from under the hand of Judah, and then made a king reign over them. (**2 Kings 8:20**)
- Consequently Jehoram passed over to Zair, also all the chariots with him. And it came about that he himself rose up by night and got to strike down the **Edomites** that were surrounding him and the chiefs of the chariots, and the people went fleeing to their tents. (**2 Kings 8:21**)
- But **Edom** kept up its revolt from under the hand of Judah down to this day. It was then that Libnah began to revolt at that time. (**2 Kings 8:22**)
- In his days **Edom** revolted from under the hand of Judah and then made a king to reign over them. (**2 Chronicles 21:8**)
- So Jehoram together with his chiefs passed over and also all the chariots with him. And it came about that he rose up by night

- and went striking down the **Edomites** that were surrounding him and also the chiefs of the chariots. (2 Chronicles 21:9)
- But **Edom** kept up its revolt from under the hand of Judah down to this day. It was then that Libnah began to revolt at the same time from under his hand, because he had left Yehowah the God of his forefathers. (2 Chronicles 21:10)
  - In the first half of Amaziah's reign, 858-830 B.C.E, the Valley of Salt was again the scene of military disaster for **Edom**, and Amaziah seized the major **Edomite** city of Sela, being ensnared, however, by worship of **Edom's** impotent false gods.
  - He himself struck down the **Edomites** in the Valley of Salt, ten thousand men, and got to seize Sela in the war, and its name came to be called Joktheel down to this day. (2 Kings 14:7)
  - And Amaziah, for his part, took courage and proceeded to lead his own people and go to the Valley of Salt, and he went striking down the sons of Seir, ten thousand of them. (2 Chronicles 25:11)
  - And there were ten thousand that the sons of Judah captured alive. So they brought them to the top of the crag, and proceeded to throw them from the top of the crag, and they, one and all, burst apart. (2 Chronicles 25:12)
  - As for the members of the troop whom Amaziah had sent back from going with him to the war, they began making raids upon the cities of Judah, from Samaria clear to Beth-horon, and went striking down three thousand of them and taking a great plunder. (2 Chronicles 25:13)
  - But it occurred after Amaziah came from striking down the **Edomites** that he now brought the gods of the sons of **Seir** and set them up for himself as gods, and before them he began to bow down, and to them he began to make sacrificial smoke. (2 Chronicles 25:14)
  - Consequently Yehowah's anger became hot against Amaziah, and so he sent a prophet to him and said to him; Why have you searched for the peoples gods that did not deliver their own people out of your hand? (2 Chronicles 25:15)

- And it came about when he spoke to him that the king immediately said to him; Was it a counselor of the king that we constituted you? Quit for your own sake. Why should they strike you down? Accordingly the prophet quit, but he said; I certainly know that God has resolved to bring you to ruin, because you have done this and you have not listened to my counsel. (**2 Chronicles 25:16**)
- Then Amaziah the king of Judah took counsel and sent to Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz the son of Jehu the king of Israel, saying; Come! Let us look each other in the face. (**2 Chronicles 25:17**)
- At that Jehoash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah the king of Judah, saying; The thorny weed itself that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying; Do give your daughter to my son as a wife. However, a wild beast of the field that was in Lebanon passed by and trampled the thorny weed down. (**2 Chronicles 25:18**)
- You have said to yourself; Here you have struck down **Edom**. And your heart has lifted you up to be glorified. Now do keep dwelling in your own house. Why should you engage in strife in a bad position and have to fall, you and Judah with you? (**2 Chronicles 25:19**)
- But Amaziah did not listen, for it was from the true God for the purpose of giving them into his hand, because they had searched for the gods of **Edom**. (**2 Chronicles 25:20**)
- His son, Uzziah or Azariah, restored Elath to Judean control.
- Then all the people of Judah took Azariah, he at the time being sixteen years old, and they made him king in place of his father Amaziah. (**2 Kings 14:21**)
- He himself built Elath and got to restore it to Judah after the king lay down with his forefathers. (**2 Kings 14:22**)
- Syria, in an offensive action against Judah during Ahaz reign, **761-746 B.C.E**, put the Red Sea port of Elath back into **Edom's** hands.
- It was then that Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel proceeded to come up against

- Jerusalem in war and laid siege against Ahaz, but they were not able to fight. (**2 Kings 16:5**)
- At that time Rezin the king of Syria restored Elath to **Edom**, after which he cleared out the Jews from Elath, and the **Edomites**, for their part, entered Elath and kept dwelling there down to this day. (**2 Kings 16:6**)
  - The **Edomites**, evidently free from Judah's dominion, joined other nations, including Assyria, in raids against Judah.
  - At that time King Ahaz sent to the kings of Assyria for them to help him. (**2 Chronicles 28:16**)
  - And once again the **Edomites** themselves came in and went striking down Judah and carrying off captives. (**2 Chronicles 28:17**)
  - As for the Philistines, they made a raid upon the cities of the Shephelah and the Negeb of Judah and got to capture Bethshemesh and Aijalon and Gederoth and Soco and its dependent towns and Timnah and its dependent towns and Gimzo and its dependent towns, and they took up dwelling there. (**2 Chronicles 28:18**)
  - For Yehowah humbled Judah on account of Ahaz the king of Israel, because he let unrestraint grow in Judah, and there was an acting with great unfaithfulness toward Yehowah. (**2 Chronicles 28:19**)
  - Eventually Tilgath-pilneser the king of Assyria came against him and caused him distress, and did not strengthen him. (**2 Chronicles 28:20**)
  - They have said; Come and let us efface them from being a nation, that the name of Israel may be remembered no more. (**Psalms 83:4**)
  - For with the heart they have unitedly exchanged counsel, against you they proceeded to conclude even a covenant. (**Psalms 83:5**)
  - The tents of **Edom** and the Ishmaelites, Moab and the Hagrites. (**Psalms 83:6**)

- Gebal and Ammon and Amalek, Philistia together with the inhabitants of Tyre. (**Psalms 83:7**)
- Also, Assyria itself has become joined with them, they have become an arm to the sons of Lot. (**Psalms 83:8**)
- No written records have been found from **Edomite** sources. Secular records of other nations, however, make mention of them. An Egyptian papyrus thought to be of the **Second Millennium B.C.E**, refers to Bedouin tribes from **Edom** entering the Delta region in search of pasturage for their cattle.
- Pharaoh's Merneptah and Ramses III claimed dominion over Edom, as did the Assyrian monarch Adad-nirari III. Sometime after this latter king, Tiglath-pileser III, a contemporary of Ahaz, boasts of receiving tribute from Kaushmalaku of **Edom**, while Esar-haddon, Sennacherib's successor, lists Qaushgabri as an **Edomite** vassal king. [**Ancient Near Eastern Texts**, edited by J. Pritchard, 1974, pp. 282,291]

### •• **Edom In Prophecy**

- As early as King Uzziah's rule, the prophets Joel and Amos pronounced Yehowah's positive condemnation of **Edom** for its unrelenting fury expressed against Israel by the unmerciful use of the sword.
- This is what Yehowah has said; On account of three revolts of Gaza, and on account of four, I shall not turn it back, on account of their taking into exile a complete body of exiles to hand over to **Edom**. (**Amos 1:6**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; On account of three revolts of **Edom**, and on account of four, I shall not turn it back, on account of his pursuing his own brother with the sword, and because he ruined his own merciful qualities, and his anger keeps tearing away forever, and his fury, he has kept it perpetually. (**Amos 1:11**)
- And I will send a fire into Teman, and it must devour the dwelling towers of Bozrah. (**Amos 1:12**)
- **Edom**, by its vicious opposition to Yehowah's covenant people, had forfeited its title to the land it had held by divine warrant.

- As regards Egypt, a desolate waste it will become, and as regards **Edom**, a wilderness of desolate waste it will become, because of the violence to the sons of Judah, in whose land they shed innocent blood. (**Joel 3:19**)
- In that day I shall raise up the booth of David that is fallen, and I shall certainly repair their breaches. And its ruins I shall raise up, and I shall certainly build it up as in the days of long ago. (**Amos 9:11**)
- To the end that they may take possession of what is left remaining of **Edom**, and all the nations upon whom my name has been called, is the utterance of Yehowah, who is doing this. (**Amos 9:12**)
- The **Edomites** sealed their doom when the Babylonians conquered Judah and Jerusalem in **607 B.C.E.** **Edomite** hatred was clearly revealed as they urged on the devastators of Jerusalem
- Remember, O Yehowah, regarding the sons of **Edom** the day of Jerusalem, who were saying; Lay it bare! Lay it bare to the foundation within it! (**Psalms 137:7**)
- Rejoiced at Judah's tragedy, and in their enmity and desire for revenge even turned over Judean escapees for slaughter by the Babylonians.
- They joined other neighboring peoples in plundering the land, and they planned to take over the abandoned country of Judah and of Israel, speaking boastfully against Yehowah.
- For this, Yehowah directed his prophets Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Obadiah to assure **Edom** that its rejoicing would be short-lived and the treatment meted out to Judah would also become **Edom's** portion.
- Exult and rejoice, O daughter of **Edom**, dwelling as you do in the land of Uz. To you also the cup will pass along. You will become drunk and show yourself in nakedness. (**Lamentations 4:21**)
- Your error, O daughter of Zion, has come to its finish. He will not carry you off into exile again. He has turned his attention to your error, O daughter of **Edom**. He has uncovered your sins. (**Lamentations 4:22**)

- This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; For the reason that **Edom** has acted in taking vengeance upon the house of Judah and they kept doing wrong extensively and avenged themselves on them. (**Ezekiel 25:12**)
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; I will also stretch out my hand against **Edom** and cut off from it man and domestic animal, and I will make it a devastated place from Teman, even to Dedan. By the sword they will fall. (**Ezekiel 25:13**)
- And I will bring my vengeance on **Edom** by the hand of my people Israel, and they must do in **Edom** according to my anger and according to my rage, and they will have to know what my vengeance is, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 25:14**)
- And the word of Yehowah continued to occur to me, saying; (**Ezekiel 35:1**)
- Son of man, set your face against the mountainous region of **Seir** and prophesy against it. (**Ezekiel 35:2**)
- And you must say to it; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am against you, O mountainous region of **Seir**, and I will stretch out my hand against you and make you a desolate waste, even a desolation. (**Ezekiel 35:3**)
- Your cities I shall set as a devastated place, and you yourself will become a sheer desolate waste, and you will have to know that I am Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 35:4**)
- For the reason that you proved to have an indefinitely lasting enmity and you kept delivering the sons of Israel over to the power of the sword, in the time of their disaster, in the time of their final error. (**Ezekiel 35:5**)
- Therefore as I am alive, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah, because it was for blood that I was preparing you, blood itself will also pursue you. Surely it was blood that you hated, and blood itself will pursue you. (**Ezekiel 35:6**)
- And I shall certainly make the mountainous region of **Seir** a desolate waste, even a desolation, and I will cut off from it the

one passing through and the one returning. ([Ezekiel 35:7](#))

- **And I will fill its mountains with its slain ones, as for your hills and your valleys and all your streambeds, the very ones slain by the sword will fall in them. ([Ezekiel 35:8](#))**
- **Indefinitely lasting desolate wastes are what I shall make you, and your own cities will not be inhabited, and you people will have to know that I am Yehowah. ([Ezekiel 35:9](#))**
- **By reason of your saying; These two nations and these two lands, they will become my own, and we shall certainly take possession of each land, whereas Yehowah himself happened to be right there. ([Ezekiel 35:10](#))**
- **Therefore as I am alive, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah, I will act also according to your anger and according to your jealousy that you have expressed owing to your feelings of hatred toward them, and I will make myself known among them when I judge you. ([Ezekiel 35:11](#))**
- **And you will have to know that I myself, Yehowah, have heard all your disrespectful things that you have said concerning the mountains of Israel, saying; They have been laid desolate. To us they have been given for food. ([Ezekiel 35:12](#))**
- **And you people kept acting in great style against me with your mouths, and you have multiplied against me your words. I myself have heard them. ([Ezekiel 35:13](#))**
- **This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; At the same time that all the earth rejoices, a desolate waste is what I shall make of you. ([Ezekiel 35:14](#))**
- **Just as there was rejoicing on your part at the inheritance of the house of Israel because it was laid desolate, the same thing I shall make of you. A desolate waste is what you will become, O mountainous region of Seir, even all **Edom**, all of it, and they will have to know that I am Yehowah. ([Ezekiel 35:15](#))**
- **Therefore prophesy, and you must say; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; For the reason, even for the reason that there has been a lying desolate and a snapping at you from all sides, in order for you to become a possession to the**



remaining ones of the nations and you continue being talked about with the tongue and there is a bad report among people. **(Ezekiel 36:3)**

- **Therefore, O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah! This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said to the mountains and to the hills, to the streambeds and to the valleys and to the devastated places that were laid desolate and to the abandoned cities that have come to be for plunder and for ridicule to the remaining ones of the nations that are round about. (Ezekiel 36:4)**
- **Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Certainly in the fire of my zeal I will speak against the remaining ones of the nations and against **Edom**, all of it, those who have given my land to themselves as a possession with the rejoicing of all the heart, with scorn in the soul, for the sake of its pasture ground and for the plunder. (Ezekiel 36:5)**
- **The vision of Obadiah. This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said regarding **Edom**; There is a report that we have heard from Yehowah, and there is an envoy that has been sent among the nations; Rise up, you people, and let us rise up against her in battle. (Obadiah 1:1)**
- **Look! Small is what I have made you among the nations. You are despised very much. (Obadiah 1:2)**
- **The presumptuousness of your heart is what has deceived you, you who are residing in the retreats of the crag, the height where he dwells, saying in his heart; Who will bring me down to the earth? (Obadiah 1:3)**
- **If you should make your position high like the eagle, or if among the stars there were a placing of your nest, down from there I would bring you, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Obadiah 1:4)**
- **If it were thieves that came in to you, if despoilers came in by night, to what extent would you have been silenced? Would they not steal as much as they wanted? Or if it were grape gatherers that came in to you, would they not let some gleanings remain? (Obadiah 1:5)**
- **O the extent to which those of Esau have been searched out!**

**How his concealed treasures have been sought out! (Obadiah 1:6)**

- **As far as the boundary they have sent you. The very men in covenant with you have all deceived you. The men at peace with you have prevailed against you. Those eating food with you will place a net under you as one in whom there is no discernment. (Obadiah 1:7)**
- **Will it not be in that day, is the utterance of Yehowah, and I shall certainly destroy the wise ones out of Edom, and discernment out of the mountainous region of Esau. (Obadiah 1:8)**
- **And your mighty men must become terrified, O Teman, for the reason that each one will be cut off from the mountainous region of Esau, because of a killing. (Obadiah 1:9)**
- **Because of the violence to your brother Jacob, shame will cover you, and you will have to be cut off to time indefinite. (Obadiah 1:10)**
- **In the day when you stood off on the side, in the day when strangers took his military force into captivity and when outright foreigners entered his gate and over Jerusalem they cast lots, you also were like one of them. (Obadiah 1:11)**
- **And you ought not to watch the sight in the day of your brother, in the day of his misfortune, and you ought not to rejoice at the sons of Judah in the day of their perishing, and you ought not to maintain a big mouth in the day of their distress. (Obadiah 1:12)**
- **You ought not to come into the gate of my people in the day of their disaster. You, even you, ought not to peer at his calamity in the day of his disaster, and you ought not to thrust out a hand upon his wealth in the day of his disaster. (Obadiah 1:13)**
- **And you ought not to stand at the parting of the ways, in order to cut off his escapees, and you ought not to hand over his survivors in the day of distress. (Obadiah 1:14)**
- **For the day of Yehowah against all the nations is near. In the way that you have done, it will be done to you. Your sort of treatment will return upon your own head. (Obadiah 1:15)**

- For in the way that you people have drunk upon my holy mountain, all the nations will keep drinking constantly. And they will certainly drink and gulp down and become as though they had never happened to be. (**Obadiah 1:16**)
- As the prophet Isaiah had earlier foretold, the sword-wielding **Edomites** would come under Yehowah's own sword of justice and judgment, all classes, great and small, becoming like sacrificial animals devoted to destruction.
- For in the heavens my sword will certainly be drenched. Look! Upon **Edom** it will descend, and upon the people devoted by me to destruction in justice. (**Isaiah 34:5**)
- Yehowah has a sword. It must be filled with blood. It must be made greasy with the fat, with the blood of young rams and he-goats, with the fat of the kidneys of rams. For Yehowah has a sacrifice in Bozrah, and a great slaughtering in the land of **Edom**. (**Isaiah 34:6**)
- And the wild bulls must come down with them, and young bulls with the powerful ones, and their land must be drenched with blood, and their very dust will be made greasy with the fat. (**Isaiah 34:7**)
- For Yehowah has a day of vengeance, a year of retributions for the legal case over Zion. (**Isaiah 34:8**)
- **Edom** was to become like Sodom and Gomorrah, uninhabited for all time.
- For **Edom** this is what Yehowah of armies has said; Is there no longer any wisdom in Teman? Has counsel perished from those having understanding? Has their wisdom gone to putrefying? (**Jeremiah 49:7**)
- Flee! Let yourselves give way! Go down deep in order to dwell, O inhabitants of Dedan! For the disaster of **Esau** I will bring in upon him, the time that I must turn my attention to him. (**Jeremiah 49:8**)
- If grape gatherers themselves actually came in to you, would they not let some gleanings remain? If thieves came in by night, they would certainly cause only as much ruin as they wanted.

**(Jeremiah 49:9)**

- **But as for me, I will strip Esau bare. I will uncover his places of concealment, and one will not be able to hide oneself. His offspring and his brothers and his neighbors will certainly be despoiled, and he will not be. (Jeremiah 49:10)**
- **Do leave your fatherless boys. I myself shall preserve them alive, and your own widows will trust even in me. (Jeremiah 49:11)**
- **For this is what Yehowah has said; Look! Although it is not their custom to drink the cup, they will drink without fail. And you yourself, will you be absolutely left unpunished? You will not be left unpunished, for you will drink without fail. (Jeremiah 49:12)**
- **For by my own self I have sworn, is the utterance of Yehowah, that nothing but an object of astonishment, a reproach, a devastation and a malediction will Bozrah become, and all her own cities will become devastated places to time indefinite. (Jeremiah 49:13)**
- **There is a report that I have heard from Yehowah, and there is an envoy that is sent among the nations, saying; Collect yourselves together, and come against her, and rise up to battle. (Jeremiah 49:14)**
- **For, look! I have made you small indeed among the nations, despised among mankind. (Jeremiah 49:15)**
- **The shuddering you caused has deceived you, the presumptuousness of your heart, O you who are residing in the retreats of the crag, holding the height of the hill. Although you build your nest high up just like an eagle, down from there I shall bring you, is the utterance of Yehowah. (Jeremiah 49:16)**
- **And Edom must become an object of astonishment. Everyone passing along by her will stare in astonishment and whistle on account of all her plagues. (Jeremiah 49:17)**
- **Just as in the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah and her neighbor towns; Yehowah has said; No man will dwell there, and no son of mankind will reside in her as an alien. (Jeremiah 49:18)**

- **Look! Someone will come up just like a lion from the proud thickets along the Jordan to the durable abiding place, but in a moment I will make him run away from her. And the one who is chosen I shall appoint over her. For who is like me, and who will challenge me, and who, now, is the shepherd that can stand before me? (Jeremiah 49:19)**
- **Therefore hear, O men, the counsel of Yehowah that he has formulated against Edom, and his thoughts that he has thought out against the inhabitants of Teman. Surely the little ones of the flock will be dragged about. Surely on account of them he will make their dwelling place become desolate. (Jeremiah 49:20)**
- **At the sound of their falling the earth has begun to rock. There is an outcry! The sound of it has been heard even at the Red Sea. (Jeremiah 49:21)**
- **Look! Just like an eagle someone will ascend and pounce down, and he will spread out his wings over Bozrah, and the heart of the mighty men of Edom will actually become in that day like the heart of the wife having distress in childbirth. (Jeremiah 49:22)**
- **And her torrents must be changed into pitch, and her dust into sulphur, and her land must become as burning pitch. (Isaiah 34:9)**
- **By night or by day it will not be extinguished, to time indefinite its smoke will keep ascending. From generation to generation she will be parched, forever and ever no one will be passing across her. (Isaiah 34:10)**
- **And the pelican and the porcupine must take possession of her, and long-eared owls and ravens themselves will reside in her, and he must stretch out over her the measuring line of emptiness and the stones of wasteness. (Isaiah 34:11)**
- **Her nobles, there are none there whom they will call to the kingship itself, and her very princes will all become nothing. (Isaiah 34:12)**
- **On her dwelling towers thorns must come up, nettles and thorny weeds in her fortified places, and she must become an abiding place of jackals, the courtyard for the ostriches. (Isaiah 34:13)**

- **And haunters of waterless regions must meet up with howling animals, and even the goat-shaped demon will call to its companion. Yes, there the nightjar will certainly take its ease and find for itself a resting-place. (Isaiah 34:14)**
- **There the arrow snake has made its nest and lays eggs, and it must hatch them and gather them together under its shadow. Yes, there the gledes must collect themselves together, each one with her mate. (Isaiah 34:15)**
- **Meriting Yehowah's hatred, **Edom** would be called the territory of wickedness and the people whom Yehowah has denounced to time indefinite.**
- **A pronouncement! The word of Yehowah concerning Israel by means of Malachi. (Malachi 1:1)**
- **I have loved you people; Yehowah has said. And you have said; In what way have you loved us? Was not **Esau** the brother of Jacob? Is the utterance of Yehowah. But I loved Jacob. (Malachi 1:2)**
- **And **Esau** I have hated. I finally made his mountains a desolated waste and his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness. (Malachi 1:3)**
- **Because **Edom** keeps saying; We have been shattered, but we shall return and build the devastated places, this is what Yehowah of armies has said; They, for their part, will build, but I, for my part, shall tear down. And people will certainly call them the territory of wickedness and the people whom Yehowah has denounced to time indefinite. (Malachi 1:4)**
- **And your own eyes will see it, and you yourselves will say; May Yehowah be magnified over the territory of Israel. (Malachi 1:5)**
- ****Edom** thus evidently stands as symbolic of the hard-set enemies of God's covenant people at;**
- **Who is this one coming from **Edom**, the one with garments of glowing colors from **Bozrah**, this one who is honorable in his clothing, marching in the abundance of his power? I, the One speaking in righteousness, the One abounding in power to save.**

**(Isaiah 63:1)**

- **Why is it that your clothing is red, and your garments are like those of one treading in the winepress? (Isaiah 63:2)**
- **The wine trough I have trodden by myself, while there was no man with me from the peoples. And I kept treading them in my anger, and I kept trampling them down in my rage. And their spurting blood kept spattering upon my garments, and all my clothing I have polluted. (Isaiah 63:3)**
- **For the day of vengeance is in my heart, and the very year of my repurchased ones has come. (Isaiah 63:4)**
- **And I kept looking, but there was no helper, and I began to show myself astonished, but there was no one offering support. So my arm furnished me salvation, and my rage was what supported me. (Isaiah 63:5)**
- **And I kept stamping down peoples in my anger, and I proceeded to make them drunk with my rage and to bring down to the earth their spurting blood. (Isaiah 63:6)**
- **Where the divine Warrior with bloodstained garments who has trod the winepress of God's vengeance appropriately is described as coming from **Edom**, meaning **Red**, and from Edom's most prominent city **Bozrah**, possibly used here as a play on the **Hebrew** word *ba-tsir'*, meaning **grape gathering**.**
- **And I saw, and, look! A white cloud, and upon the cloud someone seated like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head and a sharp sickle in his hand. (Revelation 14:14)**
- **And another angel emerged from the temple sanctuary, crying with a loud voice to the one seated on the cloud; Put your sickle in and reap, because the hour has come to reap, for the harvest of the earth is thoroughly ripe. (Revelation 14:15)**
- **And the one seated on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped. (Revelation 14:16)**
- **And still another angel emerged from the temple sanctuary that is in heaven, he, too, having a sharp sickle. (Revelation 14:17)**

- **And still another angel emerged from the altar and he had authority over the fire. And he called out with a loud voice to the one that had the sharp sickle, saying; Put your sharp sickle in and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, because its grapes have become ripe. (Revelation 14:18)**
- **And the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and he hurled it into the great winepress of the anger of God. (Revelation 14:19)**
- **And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress as high up as the bridles of the horses, for a distance of a thousand six hundred furlongs. (Revelation 14:20)**
- **And I saw the heaven opened, and, look! A white horse. And the one seated upon it is called Faithful and True, and he judges and carries on war in righteousness. (Revelation 19:11)**
- **His eyes are a fiery flame, and upon his head are many diadems. He has a name written that no one knows but he himself. (Revelation 19:12)**
- **And he is arrayed with an outer garment sprinkled with blood, and the name he is called is The Word of God. (Revelation 19:13)**
- **Also, the armies that were in heaven were following him on white horses, and they were clothed in white, clean, fine linen. (Revelation 19:14)**
- **And out of his mouth there protrudes a sharp long sword, that he may strike the nations with it, and he will shepherd them with a rod of iron. He treads too the winepress of the anger of the wrath of God the Almighty. (Revelation 19:15)**
- **And upon his outer garment, even upon his thigh, he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords. (Revelation 19:16)**

### ·· **Later History And Disappearance**

- **The king of **Edom** was warned by means of Yehowah's prophet Jeremiah to bring his neck under the yoke of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon.**
- **In the beginning of the kingdom of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah,**



- the king of Judah, this word occurred to Jeremiah from Yehowah, saying; (**Jeremiah 27:1**)
- This is what Yehowah has said to me; Make for yourself bands and yoke bars, and you must put them upon your neck. (**Jeremiah 27:2**)
  - And you must send them to the king of **Edom** and to the king of Moab and to the king of the sons of Ammon and to the king of Tyre and to the king of Sidon by the hand of the messengers who are coming to Jerusalem to Zedekiah the king of Judah. (**Jeremiah 27:3**)
  - And you must give them a command for their masters, saying; This is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; This is what you should say to your masters. (**Jeremiah 27:4**)
  - I myself have made the earth, mankind and the beasts that are upon the surface of the earth by my great power and by my stretched-out arm, and I have given it to whom it has proved right in my eyes. (**Jeremiah 27:5**)
  - And now I myself have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and even the wild beasts of the field I have given him to serve him. (**Jeremiah 27:6**)
  - And all the nations must serve even him and his son and his grandson until the time even of his own land comes, and many nations and great kings must exploit him as a servant. (**Jeremiah 27:7**)
  - What the **Edomites** actually did in this regard is not recorded. However, after the destruction of Jerusalem in **607 B.C.E**, some Judean exiles found temporary refuge in Edom. Then, after the departure of the Babylonian armies, these refugees returned to their land and finally fled down to Egypt.
  - And all the Jews that were in Moab and among the sons of Ammon and in **Edom** and those who were in all the other lands, they also heard that the king of Babylon had given a remnant to Judah and that he had commissioned over them Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan. (**Jeremiah 40:11**)

- **And all the Jews began to return from all the places to which they had been dispersed, and they kept coming into the land of Judah to Gedaliah at Mizpah. And they went gathering wine and summer fruits in very great quantity. (Jeremiah 40:12)**
- **So Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military forces took all the remnant of Judah that had returned from all the nations to which they had been dispersed, in order to reside for a while in the land of Judah. (Jeremiah 43:5)**
- **Even the able-bodied men and the wives and the little children and the daughters of the king and every soul that Nebuzaradan the chief of the bodyguard had let stay with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet and Baruch the son of Neriah. (Jeremiah 43:6)**
- **And they finally came into the land of Egypt, for they did not obey the voice of Yehowah, and they came gradually as far as Tahpanhes. (Jeremiah 43:7)**
- **Soon the time for **Edom** to drink deeply from the cup of Yehowah's wrath arrived.**
- **For this is what Yehowah the God of Israel said to me; Take this cup of the wine of rage out of my hand, and you must make all the nations to whom I am sending you drink it. (Jeremiah 25:15)**
- **And they must drink and shake back and forth and act like crazed men because of the sword that I am sending among them. (Jeremiah 25:16)**
- **And I proceeded to take the cup out of the hand of Yehowah and to make all the nations drink to whom Yehowah had sent me: (Jeremiah 25:17)**
- **Edom** and Moab and the sons of Ammon. (Jeremiah 25:21)
- **This occurred about the middle of the **Sixth Century B.C.E**, under the Babylonian king Nabonidus. According to **C. J. Gadd**, a scholar of Babylonian history and literature, the troops of Nabonidus that conquered **Edom** and Tema included Jewish soldiers.**
- **Commenting on this, **John Lindsay** wrote; Thus, in part at least, the words of the prophet found a fulfillment when he wrote of Yahweh**

saying I will lay my vengeance upon **Edom** by the hand of my people Israel.

- And I will bring my vengeance on **Edom** by the hand of my people Israel, and they must do in **Edom** according to my anger and according to my rage, and they will have to know what my vengeance is, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord Yehowah. (**Ezekiel 25:14**)
- We have also a partial fulfillment of the words of Obadiah who said that **Edom's** allies, confederates, trusted friends would deceive, prevail against and set a trap under them.
- Here we may see a reference to the Babylonians who, although in the days of Nebuchadrezzar were willing to allow them a share in Judah's loss, under Nabonidus curbed once and for all the commercial and mercantile ambitions of Edom [cf. **Obad. 1 and 7**][*Palestine Exploration Quarterly, London, 1976, p. 39*]
- The book of Malachi, written some 100 years after the campaign into **Edom** by Nabonidus, relates that God had already made **Edom's** mountains a desolated waste and his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness.
- And **Esau** I have hated, and I finally made his mountains a desolated waste and his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness. (**Malachi 1:3**)
- The **Edomites** were hoping to return and rebuild their devastated places, but they would not be successful.
- Because **Edom** keeps saying; We have been shattered, but we shall return and build the devastated places, this is what Yehowah of armies has said; They, for their part, will build, but I, for my part, shall tear down. And people will certainly call them the territory of wickedness and the people whom Yehowah has denounced to time indefinite. (**Malachi 1:4**)
- By the **Fourth Century B.C.E.** the Nabataeans were inhabiting the **Edomite** territory, and the **Edomites** were never able to return. Instead, they found themselves in the Negeb to the South of Judah. The **Edomites** moved as far North as Hebron, and eventually the southern part of Judah became known as Idumea.

- According to Josephus, John Hyrcanus I. subjugated them sometime between **130 B.C.E. and 120 B.C.E.** and compelled them to accept Judaism. [*Jewish Antiquities*, XIII, 257,258 [ix, 1], XV, 253,254 [vii, 9]]
- Thereafter they were gradually absorbed by the Jews, and following the Roman destruction of Jerusalem in **70 C.E.**, they ceased to exist as a people.
- Because of the violence to your brother Jacob, shame will cover you, and you will have to be cut off to time indefinite. (**Obadiah 1:10**)
- And the house of Jacob must become a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of **Esau** as stubble, and they must set them ablaze and devour them. And there will prove to be no survivor to the house of **Esau**, for Yehowah himself has spoken it. (**Obadiah 1:18**)

**See Also IDUMEA**