



STAGED BIBLE · COMPANION EDITION

The Prophecy of Abdias

Prophetia Abdiae

Douay-Rheims · 1752 & Clementine Vulgate · 1592

The complete book, verse by verse, with the Latin facing the English.
With the plates, the cast, the atlas, and the notes from the margin.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

ABDIAS

the vision of Abdias

THE AMBASSADOR

sent to the nations

THE LORD

Thus saith the Lord God

EDOM

who dwellest in the clefts of the rocks

JACOB

thy brother Jacob

Staged Bible

The Bible, book by book.

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Read aloud by multiple voices.

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MAGNIFY THY MOUTH · VERSE 12

“That is, thou shalt not speak arrogantly against the children of Juda as insulting them in their distress.” Challoner’s note on this verse.

THE LATIN · VERSE 14

The second audio track reads the Clementine Vulgate, issued under Pope Clement VIII in 1592. Challoner revised this English to follow it.

MOUNT SION · VERSE 17

The hill of Jerusalem on which the Temple stood. In Scripture ‘Sion’ is often used for Jerusalem itself.

BOSPHORUS · VERSE 20

The Hebrew has Sepharad, a place not securely identified. Jerome’s Latin, which the Douay follows, reads Bosphorus.

A NOTE ON THE TEXT

The whole book, all twenty-one verses, in Challoner’s Douay-Rheims. Two more audio tracks, selectable in the video’s settings, read the Latin of the Clementine Vulgate and the Spanish of Scío de San Miguel. Captions are provided in all three languages.

*“The Prophecy of Abdias” (Obadiah), The Holy Bible, Douay-Rheims version, as revised by Bishop Richard Challoner, 1749–1752, with his notes (text from Project Gutenberg #1581). The second audio track reads the Clementine Vulgate (Sixto-Clementine, Rome, 1592) from the Latin printed in the Douay-Rheims and Latin Vulgate parallel at drbo.org, checked word for word against the eBible Clementine text. The third audio track reads the Spanish of Felipe Scío de San Miguel’s *La Biblia Vulgata Latina traducida en español* (Madrid, 1790–1793), with the spelling modernised. Public domain.*

ON THIS EDITION

The Latin of the Clementine Vulgate stands on the left-hand page and the English of the Douay-Rheims on the right, verse by verse, each verse beginning at the same height on both pages. Verse numbers are added in the margin for reference. The texts themselves are printed as published.

Prophetia Abdiae

- 1 Visio Abdiae. Haec dicit Dominus Deus ad Edom: Auditum audivimus a Domino, et legatum ad gentes misit: surgite, et consurgamus adversus eum in praelium.
- 2 Ecce parvulum dedi te in gentibus: contemptibilis tu es valde.
- 3 Superbia cordis tui extulit te, habitantem in scissuris petrarum, exaltantem solium tuum; qui dicis in corde tuo: Quis detrahet me in terram?
- 4 Si exaltatus fueris ut aquila, et si inter sidera posueris nidum tuum, inde detraham te, dicit Dominus.
- 5 Si fures introissent ad te, si latrones per noctem, quomodo conticuisses? nonne furati essent sufficientia sibi? Si vindemiares introissent ad te, numquid saltem racemum reliquissent tibi?

Notes from the rail

The footnotes as they appeared on screen, in the order of the text. Facts and glosses only; the text is left to speak for itself.

ABDIAS · VERSE 1

“Abdias, whose name is interpreted the servant of the Lord... His prophecy is the shortest of any in number of words, but yields to none, says St. Jerome, in the sublimity of mysteries.” Challoner’s introduction, 1749–52.

EDOM · VERSE 2

South-east of the Dead Sea, in the hill country of Seir. Edom is Hebrew for ‘red’, Esau’s by-name from the red pottage (Genesis 25:30); ‘Esau dwelt in mount Seir: he is Edom’ (Genesis 36:8).

A PARALLEL · VERSE 4

Jeremias 49:14–16 repeats these verses almost word for word: ‘I have heard a rumour from the Lord, and an ambassador is sent to the nations... though thou shouldst make thy nest as high as an eagle, I will bring thee down from thence.’

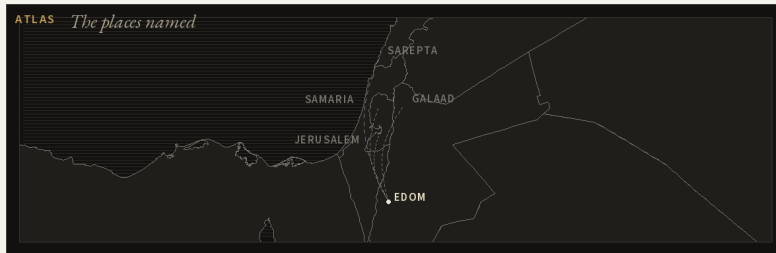
GRAPEGATHERERS · VERSE 5

The law of the vineyard left fallen grapes ‘to the poor and the strangers to take’ (Leviticus 19:10). Even grape-pickers, the verse says, leave a cluster behind.

JERUSALEM · VERSE 11

The verse looks back on a capture of the city and the deportation of its people. The best known is the Babylonian conquest of 587–586 BC; the book itself gives no date.

The places named



NAMED IN THE TEXT

Edom · verses 1, 8

Jerusalem · verses 11, 20

Samaria · verse 19

Galaad · verse 19

Sarepta · verse 20

The Prophecy of Abdias

The vision of Abdias. Thus saith the Lord God to Edom: We 1
have heard a rumour from the Lord, and he hath sent an
ambassador to the nations: Arise, and let us rise up to battle
against him.

Behold I have made thee small among the nations: thou art 2
exceeding contemptible.

The pride of thy heart hath lifted thee up, who dwellest in the 3
clefts of the rocks, and settest up thy throne on high: who sayest
in thy heart: Who shall bring me down to the ground?

Though thou be exalted as an eagle, and though thou set thy 4
nest among the stars: thence will I bring thee down, saith the
Lord.

If thieves had gone in to thee, if robbers by night, how wouldst 5
thou have held thy peace? would they not have stolen till they
had enough? if the grapegatherers had come in to thee, would
they not have left thee at the least a cluster?



PLATE 7 • VERSE 19

And they that are toward the south



PLATE 2 • VERSE 3

who dwellest in the clefts of the rocks



And they that are toward the south, shall inherit the mount of 19
Esau, and they that are in the plains, the Philistines: and they
shall possess the country of Ephraim, and the country of
Samaria: and Benjamin shall possess Galaad.

And the captivity of this host of the children of Israel, all the 20
places of the Chanaanites even to Sarepta: and the captivity of
Jerusalem that is in Bosphorus, shall possess the cities of the
south.

And saviours shall come up into mount Sion to judge the 21
mount of Esau: and the kingdom shall be for the Lord.

- 19 Et haereditabunt hi, qui ad austrum sunt, montem Esau, et qui in campestribus, Philisthiim: et possidebunt regionem Ephraim et regionem Samariae, et Benjamin possidebit Galaad.
- 20 Et transmigratio exercitus hujus filiorum Israel, omnia loca Chananaeorum usque ad Sareptam: et transmigratio Jerusalem, quae in Bosphoro est, possidebit civitates austri.
- 21 Et ascendent salvatores in montem Sion judicare montem Esau, et erit Domino regnum.



PLATE 3 • VERSE 4

Though thou be exalted as an eagle



PLATE 6 • VERSE 18

And the house of Jacob shall be a fire



PLATE 4 • VERSE 5

If thieves had gone in to thee

- 6 Quomodo scrutati sunt Esau; investigaverunt abscondita ejus?
- 7 Usque ad terminum emisit te: omnes viri foederis tui illuserunt tibi: invaluerunt adversum te viri pacis tuae, qui comedunt tecum, ponent insidias subter te; non est prudentia in eo.
- 8 Numquid non in die illa, dicit Dominus, perdam sapientes de Idumaea, et prudentiam de monte Esau?
- 9 Et timebunt fortes tui a meridie, ut intreat vir de monte Esau.
- 10 Propter interfectionem, et propter iniquitatem in fratrem tuum Jacob, operiet te confusio, et peribis in aeternum.
- 11 In die cum stares adversus eum, quando capiebant alieni exercitum ejus, et extranei ingrediebantur portas ejus, et super Jerusalem mittebant sortem, tu quoque eras quasi unus ex eis.

But thou shalt not look on in the day of thy brother, in the day of his leaving his country: and thou shalt not rejoice over the children of Juda, in the day of their destruction: and thou shalt not magnify thy mouth in the day of distress.

Neither shalt thou enter into the gate of my people in the day of their ruin: neither shalt thou also look on in his evils in the day of his calamity: and thou shalt not be sent out against his army in the day of his desolation.

Neither shalt thou stand in the crossways to kill them that flee: and thou shalt not shut up them that remain of him in the day of tribulation.

For the day of the Lord is at hand upon all nations: as thou hast done, so shall it be done to thee: he will turn thy reward upon thy own head.

For as you have drunk upon my holy mountain, so all nations shall drink continually: and they shall drink, and sup up, and they shall be as though they were not.

And in mount Sion shall be salvation, and it shall be holy, and the house of Jacob shall possess those that possessed them.

And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau stubble: and they shall be kindled in them, and shall devour them: and there shall be no remains of the house of Esau, for the Lord hath spoken it.

- 12 Et non despicias in die fratris tui, in die peregrinationis ejus: et non laetaberis super filios Juda in die perditionis eorum: et non magnificabis os tuum in die angustiae.
- 13 Neque ingredieris portam populi mei in die ruinae eorum; neque despicias et tu in malis ejus in die vastitatis illius. Et non emitteris adversus exercitum ejus in die vastitatis illius,
- 14 neque stabis in exitibus ut interficias eos qui fugerint, et non concludes reliquos ejus in die tribulationis.
- 15 Quoniam juxta est dies Domini super omnes gentes: sicut fecisti, fiet tibi; retributionem tuam convertet in caput tuum.
- 16 Quomodo enim bibistis super montem sanctum meum, bibent omnes gentes jugiter: et bibent, et absorbebunt, et erunt quasi non sint.
- 17 Et in monte Sion erit salvatio, et erit sanctus; et possidebit domus Jacob eos qui se possederant.
- 18 Et erit domus Jacob ignis, et domus Joseph flamma, et domus Esau stipula: et succendentur in eis, et devorabunt eos, et non erunt reliquiae domus Esau, quia Dominus locutus est.

How have they searched Esau, how have they sought out his hidden things? 6

They have sent thee out even to the border: all the men of thy confederacy have deceived thee: the men of thy peace have prevailed against thee: they that eat with thee shall lay snares under thee: there is no wisdom in him. 7

Shall not I in that day, saith the Lord, destroy the wise out of Edom, and understanding out of the mount of Esau? 8

And thy valiant men of the south shall be afraid, that man may be cut off from the mount of Esau. 9

For the slaughter, and for the iniquity against thy brother Jacob, confusion shall cover thee, and thou shalt perish for ever. 10

In the day when thou stoodest against him, when strangers carried away his army captive, and foreigners entered into his gates, and cast lots upon Jerusalem: thou also wast as one of them. 11



PLATE 5 • VERSE 11

In the day when thou stoodest against him