

June 30 Answers

- 1) Jehoshaphat's son, Jehoram, was married to Ahab's daughter **Athaliah**, and so his decision to kill his brothers and lead Judah into idolatry comes as no surprise. God immediately brought judgment on Jehoram: **Edom** revolted, and a coalition of Philistines and Arabs invaded Judah (2 Chr 21:16–17). Edom was **delighted** by the sacking of Jerusalem, and they **gloated** over Judah's misfortune (Obad 1:10–14). Obadiah denounced Edom for their **complicity** in the invasion, and warned them that they would soon be "cut off from the mountain of Esau by **slaughter**" (Obad 1:9). He also predicted the final victory and vindication of Israel in the "**day** of the LORD" (Obad 1:15, 17). The prophet **Joel** later said, "It shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be **saved**" (Joel 2:32), and his statement was based on Obadiah's prophecy: "But on Mount Zion there will those who **escape**" (Obad 1:17). **Peter** gladly proclaimed this verse to the Jews in Jerusalem at **Pentecost** (cf. Acts 2:21). Jesus Christ is the name given among men by which we are saved (Acts 4:12), and thus Obadiah has an indirect reference to the **gospel**! The story of Naaman teaches us that God is not impressed by our willingness to do **great** things in His name. Instead, what God finds impressive is our obedience in the **small** things and our willingness to **follow** Him even when He leads us in directions that don't make **sense** (Luke 16:10).