

Sermon Study Guide



Issues of the Heart #3: ARROGANCE

June 20, 2021 | Dr. Stephen G. Tan

In this 3-part sermon series, we look into the book of Obadiah to see how catastrophic the consequences can be when issues of the heart aren't dealt with.

Reflect

How can you tell the difference if a person is just proud of his accomplishment or he is arrogant about it? Why do you think it is hard to rebuke an arrogant person?

Read and Discuss

Scripture

Obadiah 15-21

Discussion Questions

Arrogance refers to excessive and overbearing pride. The world has a fair share of the arrogant and the boastful, even among Christians. But the book of Obadiah gives the victims of the arrogant HOPE, as we see in God's condemnation of the Edomites. Read Obadiah 15-21.

How God reveals Himself and how He operates can give you encouragement when you deal with arrogant people. And this will also serve as a warning for you if you have cultivated an arrogant heart.

1. **Warning #1: "What goes around comes around." (v. 15).** What was the warning given to the Edomites? What warning should you look for if you consider taking advantage of others? How does Galatians 6:7-8 support this warning? Share examples of "What goes around, comes around." How should this truth serve as a warning for the arrogant?
2. **Warning #2: God delivers His people and secures the final victory (v. 16-17).** What great hope was given by God to the people of Israel? Historically, both the Edomites and the Jewish people were kicked out of their lands by foreign invaders, but how did the outcome of their past and future differ? Who has the ultimate victory

according to 1 John 5:4-5? How should this encourage you when there are arrogant people around you who make you feel belittled and defeated?

3. **Warning #3: God's judgment is complete, impartial, and satisfying (v. 18).** What happened to the Edomites that speaks about the complete and satisfying judgment of God? What should this remind you of God's character? Read Romans 2:1-11. What does this passage tell you about God who is impartial in comparison to many manipulative justice systems that our society has?
4. **Warning #4: The Lord reigns supreme. No one has a right to be arrogant (v. 19-21).** What will happen when the Lord Jesus Christ returns to the earth and sets up His rule of righteousness in the Millennial Kingdom after His 2nd coming? What would be the reason why no one has a right to be arrogant, especially the children of God?

Respond

In Walk: Issues of the heart or the sinful heart attitudes that you may be cultivating manifest itself in destructive ways in your actions and speech. Are you guilty of being proud, rivalrous, or arrogant? How do you handle it? What would make you acknowledge the power and sovereignty of God in this situation?

In Prayer: Heavenly Father, I must acknowledge that there are times that arrogance is something that I struggle with. I realize that You are not pleased with me when I think of myself much better than others. May You eradicate this from my heart by acknowledging that what goes around comes around, that You are the only One who secures the final victory, whose judgment is complete and satisfying, and that no one has a right to be arrogant. Lord, help me to remain humble before You and before others as well. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.