

“Reformation”

[Jeremiah 31:31-43](#) & [Romans 3:19-28](#)

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By Rebecca Enney

“And remember, do not tease your sister!” said Mrs. Potato Head as she walked Polly and Haman Potato to the end of the Sunday School wing.

“I know! I know! I know!” Haman said over his shoulder to his grandmother as they skipped down the hallway to the classroom.

Haman noticed Obadiah looking at the large painting of Martin Luther, the reformer of the church almost 500 years ago.



“Watch this!” he whispered to his sister. He took a little ball from his pocket and threw it down the hall so that it bounced just beside Obadiah. And Obadiah, being a praying mantis, did what any self respecting insect would do if something flew out of the sky and landed beside him; he flew and hid!

“Ha, ha!” laughed Haman as he picked the ball back up and stuffed it back into his pocket.

“That wasn’t nice!” scolded Polly.

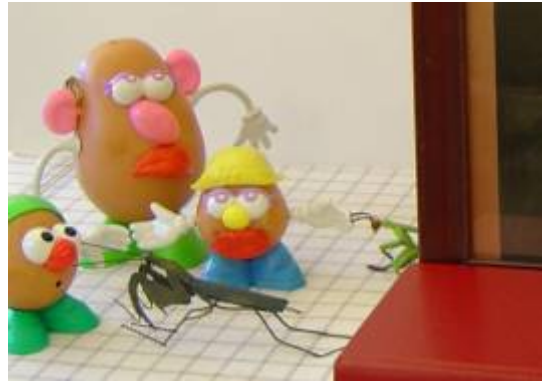
“Didn’t hurt him!” Haman shot back as he went into the classroom.

Polly went up to the painting of Martin Luther and found Obadiah crouched behind. “It’s okay. He’s gone. He teases me all the time,” explained Polly. “Sometimes he’s so mean spirited.” Polly and Obadiah sat together.

Later, when Sunday School was over and all the other children had left the room except for Obadiah, Polly and Haman, in walked Gramma Potato and Mrs. Obadiah having a friendly chat. As Mrs. Obadiah left with her son Haman watched.

“Oh Man! Two of them!” This was too much for Haman to resist. “Watch this!” Haman quickly fished the ball out of his pocket and aimed it right at the pair of praying mantises.

Once again, Obadiah flew and hid. But it was what Obadiah's mother did that Haman had not counted on. The adult praying mantis did what any insect would do if something flew out of the sky and threatened their child.



She flew all right, except she flew straight AT Haman and made a loud hissing sound! HISSSSSSSSSS! And then it was Polly and Haman and Gramma Potato Head who ran and hid behind Martin Luther!

When Gramma Potato figured out what had happened she first apologized to Obadiah's mother for the bad behavior of her grandson. And then she directed her attention to the bad little boy still hiding behind Martin Luther, reformer of the church almost 500 years ago.

"Haman Potato! I am ashamed of you!"

"But, but . . ." he stammered. "You didn't tell me I could not tease Obadiah. You just said not to tease my sister." It was a bad excuse. Haman knew it the minute it came out of his mouth.

"YOU KNOW BETTER!" Gramma Potato pulled Haman aside. She was speaking in a very angry whisper! "YOU KNEW BEFORE YOU DID IT THAT IT WAS WRONG!"

You know, you and I are a bit like Haman. Sometimes we do things that are wrong and we know they are wrong before we even start. We know because God's laws have already been written upon our heart. Even though Gramma Potato had told Haman not to be mean spirited to his sister, his heart already knew it is wrong to make fun of ANYONE. But he did it anyway.

And then, much to everyone's amazement, Martin Luther, reformer of the church almost 500 years ago said

"It's a good thing that we are not justified by how good we are. We are justified in our belief that Jesus has come to free us from our sin. Go and sin no more!"



THE END