There are events in all of our lives that leave lasting impressions upon our minds. Events such as our marriage, a child being born, our baptism, first home run, and even the death of a loved one. The greater the event the deeper the imprint upon our mind and less likely that we forget.

Bible events leave some of the most lasting impressions upon the minds of those who read its pages. Consider these Bible events. God spoke and the universe and humanity was created. Moses, by the power of God, opens the Red Sea and collapses it upon the Egyptian army. The walls of Jericho fall. David slaying Goliath. The zeal of Jehu as he tramples Jezebel under his horse's hooves. Job's suffering at the hand of Satan. Jeremiah lamenting the horrific siege of Jerusalem when God's people ate their own children in a state of great desperation. Jonah being swallowed by a great fish, taken to the depths of the ocean, and surviving the ordeal. Jesus walking on the Sea of Galilee, raising Lazarus from the dead, and feeding the five thousand with five loaves and two fishes. Who can ever forget the horrific death of Christ on the cross, his resurrection from the dead and ascension into heaven? Furthermore, great impressions are left in our mind after reading about the apostle Paul's journeys with the hardship and trials he underwent. There is the deep impressions left in our minds after reading John's revelation of the wicked of all humanity being trodden underfoot till their blood rises to bridle of the treading horses. The visions of hell are depicted as horrific and agonizingly painful for all eternity. Heaven, on the other hand, leaves deep impressions of eternal comfort and joy.

The value of these events cannot be underestimated. Each of these events recorded in divine revelation impress upon our minds the
reality of Jehovah God as the Almighty creator and sustainer of man. When people pause for a moment to look about and absorb the creation of earth and mankind we are awe struck by God's creativity. Divine revelation was designed to leave these lasting impressions upon our minds. The impressions, whether horrific, powerful, or beautiful leave an imprint upon our minds that cannot be taken away by man or Satan. These imprints produce lasting faith, conviction, stamina, and hope while we live in this world.

Moulton's Analytical Greek Lexicon defines our conscience as man's impression of reality (see page 391). It is these impressions that bring man to either condemnation or justification. Paul wrote, "(for when Gentiles that have not the law do by nature the things of the law, these, not having the law, are the law unto themselves; in that they show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness therewith, and their thoughts one with another accusing or else excusing them;)" (Romans 2:14-15). God leaves lasting impressions upon man's mind through both the things we see in this world and the divine things that we read in our Bible. True reality is developed in the minds of those who read, understand, and obey. Said individuals know that the Lord Jesus Christ will one day, in the future, come to judge the world according to their deeds. Time will only tell what you do with the impressions God has made upon your mind. Will we be so impressed that we obey the gospel and remain faithful all the days of our lives? Or shall we be as the foolish who permit the things of greatest value in life slip through our fingers? True reality or delusion in sin, which will it be with you?

Local News:

Welcome to all our visitors:

We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please do come back at your every opportunity!

Winter Storm 2011 (Part 2)

Another Winter storm has produced problems with travel and thereby day to day necessities. Let us check on all our elderly to see if they need any help.

Nell Hulsey took a bad fall last week and broke her wrist. Monday she had surgery and by mid week she was in rehab. Continue to pray for her and all the Husak family as they struggle through some difficult days.

Shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Calvin York
692-0489 (Home)

Ila Belle Windham
(at home but request no calls at this time)

Psalm 23

King James Version Bible

"1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever."

John C Robertson
How to Deal with Problems in the Church

Introduction:

Problems come in all shapes and colors in the church. There are problems presented to Christians from those outside the church and among brethren themselves (2 Corinthians 11:28). Problems that affect the entire church and problems among individuals within the church. Our Bible's paint the perfect picture of the church's identity, work, organization, and worship. When people do not follow the perfect pattern set by the Lord problems occur. This lesson shall examine problems in the church and Bible instructions to solve them.

I. The Lord knew the church would be presented with problems due to the World's opposed Views:
   A. 1 Corinthians 1:1
   B. 1 John 2:15-17
II. Problems among Brethren:
   A. Some brethren create problems due to differing personal judgments (Acts 15:36-40; Romans 14:10).
   B. Some brethren in the church teach and receive false doctrines (2 Timothy 2:17-18)
   C. Bible examples of Christians with Problems:
      2. The Corinthian church (1 Corinthians)
      3. Troubling brethren who were teaching circumcision (Acts 15:1ff / Galatians).
      4. Diotrephes (3 John 9-10)
III. How does the Church and Individuals Solve their Problems?
   A. First and foremost deal with the issues (see Thyatira / Revelation 2:20).
   B. It has been said, "Every story has three sides to it - yours, mine, and the facts."
      1. Deal with the facts among Christian individuals:
         a. If one sins against you personally apply principles of Matthew 18:15ff
         b. An elder who sins (1 Timothy 5:17-21)
         c. An individual sins (Ephesians 5:11)
         d. Never permit anger or jealousy to motivate you to move against another (Proverbs 15:1-2, 18; 29:22; Galatians 5:15).
         e. Nurture an environment of respect and honor (Romans 13:5-7; 1 Timothy 5:17; 6:15-16; 1 Peter 2:13-17).
         f. Nurture an environment of spiritual growth (Hosea 4:1ff; 1 Corinthians 3:1ff; Hebrews 5:11-6:3).
         g. Identify hard hearts (Acts 8:51) and gossip (1 Timothy 3:8-13) and rid the church of such activity.
      2. Deal with the facts in the church:
         a. The whole church is to stand opposed to sin (Romans 16:17-18; 1 Corinthians 5:1ff; Philippians 3:18; 1 Thessalonians 5:14; 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15; Titus 3:10).
         b. Disgruntled factions are to be identified and squashed (1 Corinthians 11:17; 1 John 2:18-19).

Conclusion:

The church of Jesus Christ is not to be held hostage by modern day Diotrephes. Those brethren who put their opinions and personal convictions on par with God's word and then demand that everyone else fall in line with them are nothing more than spiritual bullies doing the work of Satan. Said workers of Satan create faction and schisms in local churches. Shall the faithful stand by and be bullied? Let us all, like the apostles of old, systematically deal with every problem that comes up in the church.