



But in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. – Matthew 15:9

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The presidential election is now over. My sources say that Mr. Trump won. Now I have a request to make of everyone in this country. Please, stop the hate. Considering some of the things that Trump was promising and considering the attitude he showed toward those of the human race who aren't of the same caliber as him, we may be in for a very rough road ahead. We need each other and all this fighting is not helping. For those of you who lost, please accept that Trump won and for those of you that supported Trump, please stop the gloating. You are only inciting anger.

There are some highly unkind remarks being made about Melania. Apparently she had some nude photo shoots. And I even saw a picture of her in a sexual act with another woman. For me, this is not appropriate. But I cannot look into her heart to know what was going on that would cause her to place herself in that position. I don't know her. And even if I did, I wouldn't be able to look into her "heart" to know her psyche. If those pictures were real and not simply a photoshop job, I don't sit in judgment of her. I have enough beams in my own eyes to deal with before I'm able to sit in judgment of her.

What I do know about Melania is that she is a human being. As a human being she is loved dearly by God despite her failings. Who among us hasn't fallen at some point in some way? Shall I start pointing fingers at those who gossip, or those who are greedy, or those who spend too much time on Facebook (Ouch!)?

When the so-called christians sit in judgment of her and condemn her by calling her such lewd names they are only presenting to her a god that is intolerant and unloving. Why would she want to know and serve a god that is so judgmental and condemning? They could well be pushing her so far from the true God that

he is unable to reach her. She is to be our first lady. As such we need to treat her better.

I have read comments made by people of the LGBT community that indicate they are fearful for their future now that Mr. Trump has been elected president. If there is more to him than hot air then people may truly have cause for fear. The LGBT community is not the only population that is at risk. People of an ethnicity other than Mr. Trump's may be at risk. People who are disabled may be at risk. What about the children who don't have enough to eat? Will Mr. Trump attempt to balance the budget by cutting out food stamps and free lunches at school for those who can't afford to pay? What about Medicare? Are our seniors safe? Do we need to make room in our homes and budgets to start caring for those who are unable to work? Caring for the needy is good and we should be doing just that but removing their income and forcing them to either move in with family or friend is a form of abuse because they will lose their autonomy. The other option is for them to become homeless. Is that what Mr. Trump wants? Will his cry be, "Let them eat cake?"

For those of you who just don't "fit" into Mr. Trump's ideal let me share with you something you may or may not have thought of. Jesus chose to hang out with the sinners and prostitutes. He ate with them. In that culture to eat with someone meant that you were letting the world know that they were your people. Jesus chose to eat with those who were marginalized rather than to hang out with the leaders.

Those of us (yes, us) who don't fit into the slots that society considers to be normal, need to know and remember that we are loved with an unfathomable love by the Being who is so powerful he created the entire universe. He accepts and loves us as we are. He doesn't do a background check on us before accepting us. The church will tell you that you need to clean up your act before you can join their organization but God doesn't do that. He will take you with all your baggage. What behaviors you have that need to be cleaned up you can give to him. He will either help you or simply do it for you. And guess what, ALL of us need to be cleaned up. Even those who are "christians" and those who are rejecting you (us) need to be cleaned up. We aren't alone.

Jesus loves all of us, including the leaders. And Jesus is just like his Father. If you will get to know the true God rather than the god that christianity has presented, you'll learn to trust God to have your back. You will be able to face the future unafraid. That isn't a guarantee that harm won't come to you. But you will know that whatever adversity happens to you God is able to turn it into something good.

Much love to all and hoping for a better future for all,

Hanna

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