A MESSAGE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ELCA: GOD IS A MAJORITY OF ONE!

While God loves all mankind and gave His Son on the cross for the sins of us all, He hates all sin. He does not condone the practice of homosexuality, but condemns it in several places in the Bible. Because God has already spoken on this matter, many are stunned by the declaration of the ELCA regarding the ordination of homosexuals. The "cafeteria Christians" continue to pick and choose by majority vote which teachings of the Bible they will hold and which they will reject.

This is nothing new. For many years the ELCA has been *operating under the false notion that by a majority vote of poor, sinful human beings they may decide what is "true" and "right" before God,* even though God has already spoken in His Word – the Bible. On the eve of His crucifixion Jesus prayed for His true disciples of all time: "Father, sanctify them by Your Truth, Your Word is Truth." (John 17:17) Jesus was talking about truth of the whole Old Testament. The apostle Paul included both Old and New Testaments when he wrote to Timothy: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God (literally: "God-breathed"), and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. . . . " (2Tim. 3:1-17)

How absurd and arrogant are those who think that by majority vote they have the right to change God's word! What church body, however great in its own eyes, can reverse God's holy and eternal resolve by majority vote?!! Do they presume to change the nature of the *Holy God, Who "takes no pleasure in wickedness"* (*Ps. 5:4-5*) by majority vote? Does He not say of Himself, "*I AM the LORD, I change not*"? (*Mal. 3:6*)

Those who spread soul-destroying error, in the name of Martin Luther or Christ, are trying to redefine Lutheranism and the Christian Faith in their own fallen image. They strive to promote church "growth" in numbers and worldly power, by forsaking the "words" which Christ says "are spirit and life," while "the flesh profits nothing," (John 6:63). They oppose Christ! Rather than serving as His "under"-shepherds, they act like "over"-lords, giving the impression that the fleshly, physical, and material are everything, while the words of the Savior are nothing.

My Bible-believing aunt, a lifelong member of a large ELCA (formerly ALC) congregation in Minnesota where I was baptized, used to shake her head in disgust at the errors in her church body. Already 35 years ago she asked me, "What has happened to our church?" Well, how about a show of human hands to determine whether the Genesis account of creation is *true*; or whether the miracles of the Bible really happened, just as they are recorded; or whether the biblical teaching of the position of women in the church, taught by the Christian Church for nearly 2,000 years is *right* for our time; or *Let's have a show of human hands!*

So it has gone for many years in the ELCA, and the sleeping people in the pews think it doesn't matter. But it matters greatly! For the same Bible rejected by the know-it-all leaders in the churches, also reports that the Son of God lifted HOLY, human hands to the cross to earn forgiveness of sins and eternal life for us sinners. Who can be taught by his pastor NOT to believe certain parts of the Bible, and still hold firmly to His Savior in the other parts? I can't. Neither can you. It's a matter of eternal salvation!

How foolish to accept "majority votes" where the doctrines of Holy Scripture and the Christian Faith are concerned! Where God has spoken, He is a majority of ONE – <u>no</u> "majority vote" against His Word stands as *truth*. Remember how He made "babblers" out of that majority who voted against Him at the Tower of Babel! (*Gen. 11*) Jesus truly says, "*If you <u>continue</u> in my word, then you are truly My disciples, and you shall know the Truth, and the Truth shall make you free.*" (*John 8:31-32*)

After all this time, will any of the members of the ELCA ever get up from their slumbers and stand up for Jesus? Are there any real men in that church who will stand with Joshua and say "as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD," and then leave the "house" of error in order to obey and keep their Savior's word?

There are, it is hoped, hundreds of thousands in the ELCA who still trust in the blood of their Savior. Yet they sit at the feet of thousands of false teachers who, by their errors, erode the faith of the simple so that they lose hold of the Truth that makes and keeps them free unto eternal life! "Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord, do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you." "I will be a Father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." (2Cor. 6:17-18, Romans 16:17-18)

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