

Westboro Baptist Church

3701 S.W. 12th St. Topeka, Ks. 66604 785-273-0325 www.GodHatesFags.com @WBCsays

Reply to Redeemer Church Fort Worth Texas' Public Letter Re the Westboro Picket

April 4, 2014

Greetings Redeemer Church, Fort Worth, Texas:

This responds to your public letter regarding the Westboro picket. We appreciate you writing a public message regarding our visit to you. We are always ready to give an answer for a reason for the hope that is in us with meekness and fear: having a good conscience; that, whereas you speak evil of us, as of evildoers, you may be ashamed that falsely accuse us of our good conversation in Christ (1 Pet. 3:15-16). We tell you the words in this response to help your souls and for no other reason. *Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful (Pr. 27:6).*

1. **You complain we misuse and abuse particular texts of Scripture** by removing their context from the Bible's broader storyline; **focus too much on the Old Testament** including ascribing the death penalty for homosexuality to the exclusion of other sins worthy of death (idolatry and Sabbath breaking among others you list); and, that we **ignore Jesus' prophetic thrust**. You also claim we present only half-truths, have a distorted view and are of Satan.

Interestingly, what is left out of your pejorative missive is any mention of the absolute destruction of Sodom and Gomorrha which of course does not support your thesis and is the "elephant in the room." You also fail to mention that the sin of Sodom is directly tied to Christ's return in judgment. *Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh (sodomy/homosexuality), are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire (Jude 7).* We would not want to take anything out of context, disrupt a broader Bible storyline or fixate on one part of the law to the exclusion of another, but didn't that just say God hates fags and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, with fire and brimstone from God Almighty was at His hand, in vengeance as an example to all; and that they split hell wide open when they died and suffered and are suffering now, eternal fire? *And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;)* (2nd Pet. 2:6-8).

The destruction of Sodom is mentioned throughout the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation. It was destroyed at the very hand of the Lord Jesus Christ and He prophesied in the New Testament the state of the world at the time of His return would be totally corrupt like it was at Sodom and that He would destroy the world. *The men of Sodom were wicked and sinners before the LORD exceedingly (Gen. 13:13).* *And the LORD (Jehovah/the Lord Jesus Christ/a Christophany) appeared unto him (Abraham) in*

the plains of Mamre: and he (Abraham) sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; and he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground (Gen. 18:1-2). And the LORD (Lord Jesus Christ) said, Shall I (Lord Jesus Christ) hide from Abraham that thing which I (Lord Jesus Christ) do (Gen. 18:17). And the LORD (Lord Jesus Christ) said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous; I (Lord Jesus Christ) will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I (Lord Jesus Christ) will know. And the men (the two angels) turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD (Lord Jesus Christ) (Gen. 18:20-22). And the LORD (Lord Jesus Christ) said, If I (Lord Jesus Christ) find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I (Lord Jesus Christ) will spare all the place for their sakes. (Gen. 18:26). And the LORD (Lord Jesus Christ) went His way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham... Gen. (18:33). Then the LORD (Lord Jesus Christ) rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the LORD out of heaven (Gen. 19:24).

The expositor John Gill says at Gen. 19:24: *This was a righteous judgment on those cities, and a just retaliation for their sin; their sin was an unnatural one, and nature is inverted to punish them, fire comes down from heaven, or hell from heaven... they burned with lusts one against another, and flaming sheets of sulphurous fire fall upon them, burn and destroy them...; and this destruction was brought upon them by Jehovah the **Son of God**, who had appeared to Abraham in an human form, and gave him notice of it, and heard all he had to plead for those cities, **and then departed from him to Sodom, and was the author of this sad catastrophe; this amazing shower of fire and brimstone was rained by him from Jehovah his Father, out of heaven...***

The Lord Jesus Christ preached about the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and tied it directly to His Second Coming in power and judgment. *Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed... Remember Lot's wife. Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it (Luke 17:28-33).* Also, consider this: *And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the flood came, and destroyed them all (Luke 17:26-27).* Marrying is not a sin, but abusing the marriage covenant is, such as adultery (including, marriage, divorce and remarriage) and same-sex marriage. Again, such abuse is tied directly to the Lord Jesus' return in retribution.

Also, Christ said to *Remember Lot's Wife*, another reference to Sodom and the love of that filthy sin and what the outcome of that is (death). Of course, you also left this out of your missive. We have a duty (as do you) to preach against all sin (which we do). We have preached on the streets against all forms of sin (like Christ and the apostles did) every single day for 24+ years, "losing our lives." The standard is to preach to your neighbor so his sins do not take him/her to hell. *Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him (Lev. 19:17).* God told Isaiah, *Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins (Isaiah 58:1).* Paul told Timothy: *I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.*

It is required that the people of God make good on that charge to reprove, rebuke and exhort. The preachers in this country have absolutely failed in their duty to do this. We have same-sex marriage in this country because the preachers did not clearly preach the wrath of God about fornication, adultery, and homosexuality when they should have. They have more interest in excusing proud sin and telling everyone God loves them, and that God hates the sin and not the sinner (which came from Gandhi and not God) than in **preaching a clear message that the wrath of God abides on those who engage in such blatant sin.** *His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber* (Isaiah 56:10). You should, **today**, start preaching like a trumpet the need for repentance for homosexuality, fornication, adultery and the rest; and that the absolute judgment of God awaits those who fail to repent. **Find your bark!** These are the days of Isaiah and Jeremiah directly before the destruction of God came upon them. Remember the command of God to Ezekiel about the duty to sound the alarm. *But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand. So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them...*(Eze. 33:6-7). The lack of the preachers to be dutiful watchmen and preach God's judgment is exactly why the world is waxing worse and worse, and why Christ is coming in judgment.

2. & 3. You complain we neglect the gospel of Jesus Christ, neglect God's mercy/forgiveness, and do not understand the nature of the church and her mission.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is to keep the commandments (Mat. 19:17) and to repent or perish (Luke 13:3, 5). *From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand* (Mat. 4:17). The Lord Jesus Christ is coming in judgment and it is directly tied to the lack of repentance of this world for its sins and for its utter failure to keep the commandments of God. *For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous* (1Jo 5:3). *And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk; Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts* (Rev. 9:20-21).

The Lord Jesus Christ came the first time, 2,000 years ago with good news – to repent or perish, and that salvation through the blood of our dear Lord Jesus Christ was possible. **He is coming the second time in judgment!** *The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power* (2nd Thes. 1:7). Again, we do not want to misuse/abuse any Scripture or take anything out of context, but that does in fact look like Christ is coming in vengeance and with punishment on his mind.

And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him. These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage (Jude 14-17). Again, Christ is coming to execute judgment and not to save. Remember, Luke 17:29-30? *But the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and*

destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed. There were three people saved at Sodom and eight saved on the ark. There was not much repenting going on in those days, right before that judgment. And, there isn't much now either. Why don't you start focusing on the end of the New Testament and the coming of Christ and His destruction? We realize that is not popular to this apostate nation, and you will in fact be hated for it and suffer greatly for it; but it is the truth. If you would read the end of the Bible you would see that "The Revelation of Jesus Christ" has a bad ending for this world. The world is de-created with death everywhere and its natural resources destroyed. *Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat* (2Pe 3:12). Isaiah, Amos, Jeremiah and others had the same hard message for Israel, just before the Babylonian captivity, that unless they immediately repented God was going to destroy the nation. All of the prophets of God are hated and misused. *But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy* (2Ch 36:16).

The problem you have is you cannot read the signs of the times. *The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came... tempting... He (Christ) answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas* (Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown Jonah 3:4. Jonah's message was not good news either.)

Your letter would have more credibility if your own spiritual house was in order. There is a strong presumption, nearly irrefutable, that your church (like the Southern Baptists and nearly every church we have encountered) has a congregation full of members actively committing adultery. Christ said *"Whosoever putteth away his wife, and marrieth another, committeth adultery: and whosoever marrieth her that is put away from her husband committeth adultery* (Luke 16:18). Per Christ, divorced and remarried people are committing adultery. Christ said *"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder* (Mat. 19:6). The standard of God in the commandments is: *Thou shalt not commit adultery* (Ex 20:14, Mark 10:19). *The LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away* (Mal. 2:14-16, Matt 19:7-8). The New Testament says adulterers shall not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9), that whoremongers and adulterers God will judge (Heb. 13:4) and adultery is enmity with God (James 4:4). The sin of adultery puts any church at risk of having their candlestick summarily taken by Christ himself (Rev. 2:22). The duty of every Christian church is to exclude all adulterers (including those that are divorced and remarried), so they do not leaven the whole lump (1 Cor. 5:6-7).

Likewise there is a similar presumption that active fornication is rooted in your membership, like nearly every Southern Baptist church and nearly all others we have encountered. God says to flee fornication; he that committeth fornication sins against his own body (1 Cor. 6:18). He says to not let fornication be once named among you (Eph. 5:30); to abstain from it (1 Thes. 4:3); to not eat the Lord's Supper's with a fornicator (1 Cor. 5:11); to exclude fornicators from your membership (I Cor. 5); and they shall not inherit the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:9). Like adultery, the active sin of fornication puts any church at risk of having their candlestick taken by Christ (Rev. 2:20-21).

Also, there is a strong presumption that like most Southern Baptists (and so-called evangelical Christians which you clearly identify with according to your website) support the brutal murder of tens of thousands of your neighbors in Iraq, even though there were zero weapons of mass destruction. Likewise, the war in Afghanistan, which was fought with the full support of the evangelical masses, was

pure revenge for 9/11/2001; when the charge from God is: *Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head* (Rom. 12:19-20). The standard of God is “thou shalt not kill” (Ex 20:13); “whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment (Mat. 5:21);” and murderers shall have their part in the lake that burns with fire (Rev. 21:8).

Your theology includes the lie that “God loves everyone.” It permeates your website, your church and the Southern Baptists. It is uncontroverted fact the phrase “God loves everyone” appears zero times in the Bible; and in fact God does hate all those He sends to hell. God hates all workers of iniquity (Psalm 5:5). *As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated* (Rom. 9:13). *For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth* (Rom. 9:17-18). *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him* (John 3:36). If the wrath of God abides on you, that is not love.

God sent billions to hell in the Bible and He sends people to hell every minute of every day (for eternity). To say that He loves those in hell is ridiculous. Hear the words of Christ: *Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it* (Mat. 7:13-14). “God loves everyone” is a satanic lie and cannot be proven from the Bible. *Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience* (Eph. 5:6). *And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh* (Is. 66:24). For hundreds of years no mainline church (Baptists, Lutherans, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, etc.) preached this lie. In fact, the opposite was true.

Jonathan Edwards’ famous sermon *Sinners in the Hands of Angry God* sums up the sentiments of these religions in days gone by. *The God that holds you over the pit of hell, much as one holds a spider, or some loathsome insect over the fire, abhors you, and is dreadfully provoked: his wrath towards you burns like fire; he looks upon you as worthy of nothing else, but to be cast into the fire; he is of purer eyes than to bear to have you in his sight; you are ten thousand times more abominable in his eyes, than the most hateful venomous serpent is in ours. You have offended him infinitely more than ever a stubborn rebel did his prince; and yet it is nothing but his hand that holds you from falling into the fire every moment... The wrath of God burns against them, their damnation does not slumber; the pit is prepared, the fire is made ready, the furnace is now hot, ready to receive them; the flames do now rage and glow. That glittering sword is whet, and held over them, and the pit hath opened its mouth under them.* The fact is it is hard to sell hell, judgment and wrath to the simple masses so the “God loves everyone” lie was born. Isaiah spoke right: *This is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits* (Isaiah 30:9). “God loves everyone” is one of the greatest lies ever told, it is akin to “Ye shall not surely die.” It gives the absolute false sense that you can proudly sin and everything will be okay. *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God* (Heb. 10:31).

Unfortunately, it appears your church is lukewarm, which thing Christ hates. *I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth* (Rev. 3:15-16). You appear to *speak lightness and lies* (Jer.

23:32) and *preach smooth things instead of right things* (Isaiah 30:10). You appear to be *saving your life*, instead of *losing it* (Luke 17:33). You appear to be sitting like Eliab on the sidelines of the battle when Goliath came to reproach God and His people. Eliab cowered in fear and when David raised voice to condemn Goliath, Eliab found petty faults with David's words. David responded to Eliab "is there not a cause?" The cause being the uncircumcised Philistine defying the armies of the Living God?" This world has murdered a billion babies through abortion; fornication is everywhere, adultery (including marriage, divorce and remarriage) is the norm, sodomy is accepted as a perfectly acceptable alternative life style; Sodomites marry in spite of God's command at the Garden of Eden that marriage is between male and female as quoted by Christ in Mat. 19:4-6; idolatry, which thing God hates is everywhere around you; alcohol and drug use are a plague over this nation/world; war and murder is exported across the globe as good business, and, covetousness, greed and stealing are rampant and fully accepted as normal. *Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely, and burn incense unto Baal, and walk after other gods whom ye know not; And come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, We are delivered to do all these abominations? ... Behold, even I have seen it, saith the LORD... I will cast you out of my sight, as I have cast out all your brethren, even the whole seed of Ephraim... Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, mine anger and my fury shall be poured out upon this place, upon man, and upon beast, and upon the trees of the field, and upon the fruit of the ground; and it shall burn, and shall not be quenched* (Jer. 7:9-20). *And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their theft* (Rev. 9:20). This nation and this world have not repented of these ways, they are simply waxing worse and worse. We say to you: is there not a cause?

Finally, we fear the indicia of your church are not that of a Church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Where is your evidence the world hates you?** *"If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also"* (John 15:18, John 17:14, Luke 6:22, 1 John 3:13). Or, do all men speak well of you? - *Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets* (Luke 6:26).
- **Where is your boldness? Where is your saltiness?** Christ spoke with authority and not as the scribes (Mat. 7:29). *Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world* (1 John 4:17). Peter and John spoke with boldness and reprov'd the high priest, elders, rulers and scribes in Jerusalem (Acts 4:13). Paul spoke boldly at Damascus (Acts 9:27) and disputed against the Grecians with boldness when they went about to kill him (Acts 9:29). Paul and Barnabas waxed bold in Antioch before the whole city and the Jews. Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy were shamefully treated under much contention in Philippi and were bold in God (1 Thes. 2:2). When there is great sin all around the prophets of God preach to whole cities and nations with authority as a city on a hill. *Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid* (Mat. 5:13-14).

You appear to claim to be Baptists. John the Baptist laid the ax to the root of the tree and downed the trees there were not fruitful and cast them into the fire (Mat. 3:10). John plainly confronted King Herod to his face about Herod's audacious adultery with his brother Philip's wife (Mark 6:17, Luke 3:19). Where is your boldness like John? Who have you confronted about their adultery? Stephen did forensic battle before the high priest, council and them of Cilicia and of Asia telling them *Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers*" (Acts 7:51-52). Where is your boldness like Stephan, Christ, Elijah, Jeremiah, Amos, and Peter?

- **How have you hazarded your life for the Lord Jesus Christ?** *"It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul, Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (Acts 15:25-26).
- **How are you a spectacle to the world and despised?** *"For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised"* (1 Cor. 4:9-10).
- **How many hard speeches have been made against you?** *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him* (Jude 1:14-15).
- **How have you been reproached for Christ?** *For even the reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me* (Rom. 15:3).
- **When have you been daily, cruelly mocked and been put in bonds and jailed for preaching and suffered as an evil doer?** *And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment"* Heb. 11:36. *"Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound"* (2 Tim. 2:9). *Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life* (Rev. 2:10).
- **When have you cried against the altars, and the priests of the false religious systems, and the king - and put your lives in jeopardy?** *And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the LORD unto Bethel: and [King] Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense. And he cried against the altar in the word of the LORD, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee* (1 Kings 13:1-2).
- **How have you been strong and done religious exploits?** *"... The people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits"* (Dan. 11:32).
- **What death threats have you received?** *...For there lie in wait for him of them more than forty men, which have bound themselves with an oath, that they will neither eat nor drink till they have killed him (Paul): and now are they ready, looking for a promise from thee.* Ac 23:21
- **When have you been sued because the world hates your religious message?** *And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also* (Mat. 5:40).

- **How have your goods been spoiled for your religious message?** *For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have in heaven a better and an enduring substance* (Heb. 10:34).
- **What city have you ever exceedingly troubled?** *“... they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them”* (Acts 16:19).
- **How are you losing your life?** *Whosoever shall seek to save his life shall lose it; and whosoever shall lose his life shall preserve it* (Luke 17:33).
- **What city have you ever put in an uproar, turned upside down or put in confusion?** *“But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also”* (Acts 17:5-6). *“And the whole city was filled with confusion”* (Acts 19:29).
- **When have you been beaten and physically assaulted/scourged for Christ?** *But beware of men: for they will deliver you up to the councils, and they will scourge you in their synagogues”* (Mt. 10:17). *“For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth”* (Heb 12:6). *“... and when they saw the chief captain and the soldiers, they left beating of Paul* (Acts 21:32). *“But Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near, and smote Micaiah on the cheek, and said, Which way went the Spirit of the LORD from me to speak unto thee?”* (1Ki. 22:24). *“They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented”* (Heb 11:37). *“In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings”* (2Cor. 6:5).
- **What powerful adversaries do you have and how are you suffering?** *And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake* (Phil. 1:28-29).

Then said one unto him, Lord, are there few that be saved? And he said unto them, Strive to enter in at the strait gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. (Luke 13:23-24). We pray you will enter in at the strait and narrow gate and not follow the broad way and wide gate you are on.

Your Friends at the Westboro Baptist Church.