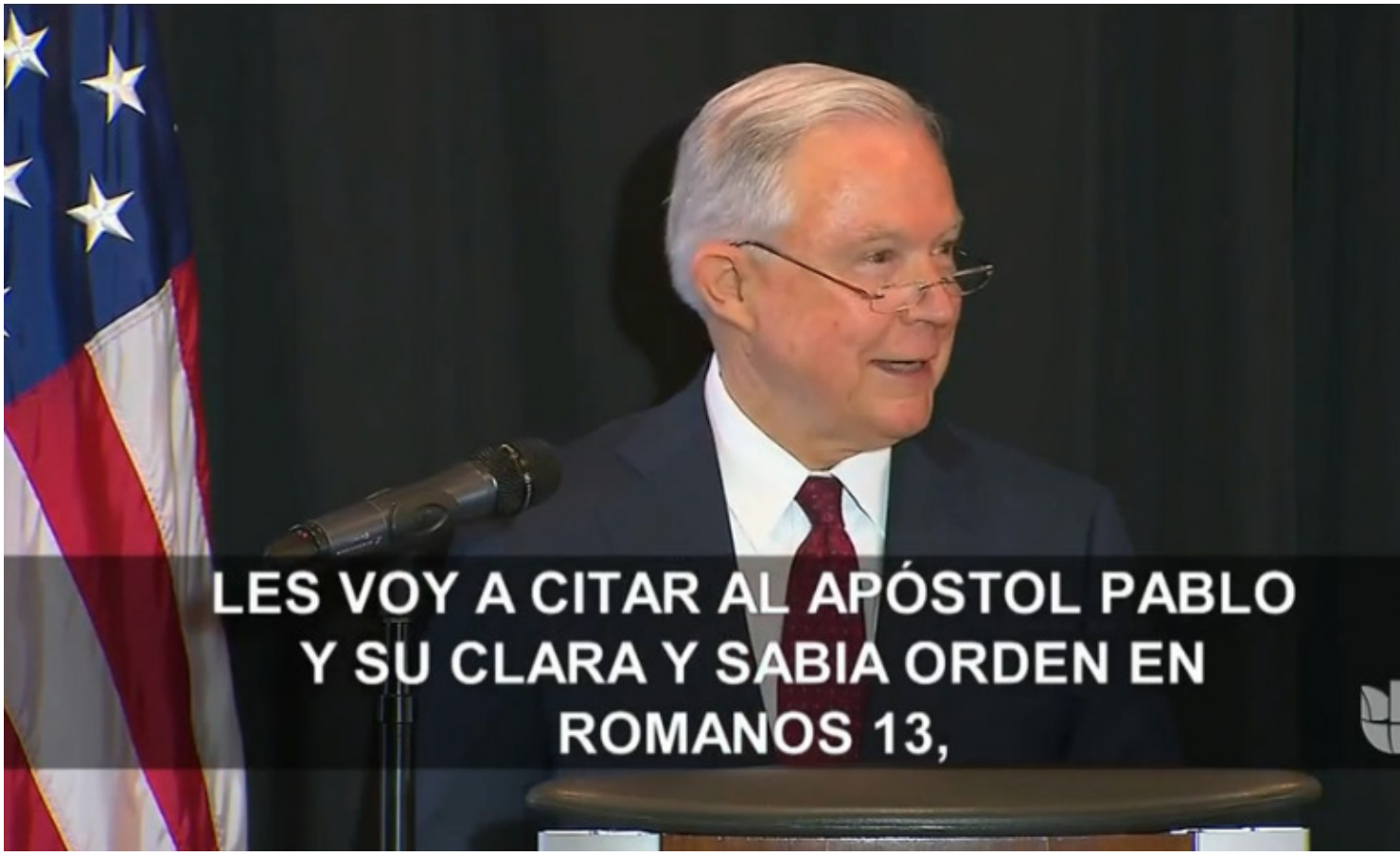
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Lunes, 18 de Junio de 2018 15:32

El fiscal General del Estado, Jeff Sessions, afirma que las Sagradas Escrituras respaldan su política de "tolerancia cero", en reacción a las críticas que ha recibido desde sectores religiosos que cuestionan la práctica.



El fiscal General del Estado, ***Jeff Sessions, el pasado jueves***

(EEUU, 15/06/2018) El fiscal General del Estado, el republicano Jeff Sessions , echó mano de las Sagradas Escrituras para justificar la política de “tolerancia cero” que anunció el mes pasado y que ha llevado a las autoridades a encausar criminalmente a quienes intentan cruzar la frontera ilegalmente y ser separados de los hijos que les acompañan.

La Casa Blanca ha reconocido que desde su implantación el pasado mes de mayo, 1995 niños han sido separados de sus padres en aplicación de esta normativa e internados en centros de acogida.

“Ingreso ilegal a Estados Unidos es un crimen, como debe ser. Las personas que violan la ley de nuestra nación están sujetas al procesamiento judicial”, dijo Sessions la tarde del jueves durante un discurso ante oficiales de policía en Indiana antes de apelar al argumento bíblico que, según el fiscal general, lo justifica.

“L**es citaría al apóstol Pablo y su claro y sabio comando en Romanos 13**, de obedecer las leyes del gobierno porque Dios las ha dictado con el propósito de ordenar”, dijo Sessions en lo que parece **un mensaje destinado a enmendarles la plana a líderes y organizaciones religiosas que en los últimos días han cuestionado la práctica** de separar a los padres inmigrantes de sus hijos.

Poco después de las declaraciones de Sessions, la secretaria de prensa de la Casa Blanca **Sarah Huckabee Sanders**, reforzó el argumento al decir que **“es muy bíblico hacer cumplir la ley”** y que “de hecho se repite un número de veces a lo largo de la Biblia”.

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Evangelical Immigration Table

Council for Christian Colleges and Universities

Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

Korean Churches for Community Development/Faith and Community Empowerment

National Association of Evangelicals

National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference

The Wesleyan Church

World Relief

World Vision

June 1, 2018

The Honorable Donald Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As evangelical leaders representing tens of thousands of local churches, campus communities, and ministries we are concerned that the new "zero tolerance" policy at the U.S.-Mexico border, recently announced by Attorney General Sessions and being implemented by the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security, has had the effect of separating vulnerable children from their parents. As head of the Executive Branch of the federal government, we are writing to ask you to resolve this situation of families being separated that you have rightly described as "horrible."

As evangelical Christians guided by the Bible, one of our core convictions is that God has established the family as the fundamental building block of society. The state should separate families only in the rarest of instances. While illegal entry to the United States can be a misdemeanor criminal violation, past administrations have exercised discretion in determining when to charge individuals with this offense, taking into account the wellbeing of children who may also be involved. A "zero tolerance" policy removes that discretion—with the effect of removing even small children from their parents. The traumatic effects of this separation on these young children, which could be devastating and long-lasting, are of utmost concern.

U.S. law currently allows individuals with a credible fear of persecution to request asylum whether the individual enters with a valid visa, requests asylum at a port of entry, or is apprehended seeking to enter without a visa. Not every individual arriving will merit asylum protection, but we would ask that families be kept together while ensuring each individual asylum seeker is afforded due process according to our laws.

We are also concerned that there are fewer *legal* possibilities for those with a well-founded fear of persecution to be considered for refugee status *without* needing to make it to the U.S. border. The U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program has allowed many fleeing persecution in Central America and elsewhere to register as refugees abroad and be thoroughly vetted before coming lawfully to the U.S. However, with significantly fewer refugees being admitted in recent years, there are fewer options for those fleeing persecution. Those facing legitimate threats to their lives often feel they have no choice but to leave their countries and seek asylum elsewhere.

We respectfully ask you to work with Attorney General Sessions and Secretary Nielsen to reverse this "zero tolerance" policy and instead urge law enforcement entities to exercise discretion to protect the unity of families. We also ask that you work with the U.S. State Department to resume a robust U.S. refugee

The Evangelical Immigration Table
www.EvangelicalImmigrationTable.com

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