

CHRISTIANS, GOVERNMENT, AND RIGHTEOUS RESISTANCE



INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF ABOLITIONIST SOCIETIES

BE WISE NOW

THEREFORE, O YE KINGS

**BE INSTRUCTED, YE JUDGES OF THE EARTH.
SERVE THE LORD WITH FEAR,
AND REJOICE WITH TREMBLING.**

**KISS THE SON, LEST HE BE ANGRY,
AND YE PERISH FROM THE WAY,
WHEN HIS WRATH IS KINDLED BUT A LITTLE.**

**BLESSED ARE ALL THEY
THAT PUT THEIR TRUST
IN HIM**

PSALM 2:10-12

WHO DECIDES WHAT IS

GOOD & EVIL

THERE IS ONE LAWGIVER, WHO IS ABLE
TO SAVE AND TO DESTROY.

JAMES 4:12

GOD IS THE ONE LAWGIVER, AND HE ALONE DEFINES GOOD AND EVIL.

This simple statement is central to Christian teaching, thought, and principle. It is not for men or angels to assert an alternate standard of right and wrong. Yet, rebellion in the Kingdom of God often starts with subverting God's righteous standard. Satan's challenge to Eve in the garden claimed that what God had called evil - do not eat from the Tree of Knowledge - was not really evil, but good. Satan's method to draw Adam and Eve away from God is alive and well today. Men perpetually seek to redefine good and evil. But how should we define good and evil?

DO WE

**GET THE
WISEST MEN**

TOGETHER TO
DECIDE?

**TAKE A
VOTE?**

LET THE MASSES
DECIDE?

**ELECT A
PRESIDENT**

AND LET ONE MAN
DECIDE?

IS THE U.S. SUPREME COURT THE ARBITER OF RIGHT AND WRONG?

"WOE UNTO THEM THAT
DECREE UNRIGHTEOUS
DECREES, AND THAT
WRITE GRIEVOUSNESS
WHICH THEY HAVE
PRESCRIBED;"

ISAIAH 10:1

"HE THAT JUSTIFIETH
THE WICKED, AND HE
THAT CONDEMNEETH THE
JUST, EVEN THEY BOTH
ARE AN ABOMINATION
TO THE LORD."

PROVERBS 17:15



IS GOVERNMENT YOUR GOD?

"THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME."

EXODUS 20:3

Idolatry is not just about worship. It is also about fear, obedience, service, and adoration. Men are guilty of idolatry when they give a person, object, power, or institution the place that only God should have.

There is a tendency for men to seek the place of God. Since God alone is the arbiter of good and evil, man exalts himself to the place of God when he asserts an alternate standard of good and evil.

When men establish alternate standards of right and wrong, they pervert truth, justice, and righteousness. Men under this kind of perverted authority must choose to obey God or men. Continued obedience, service, and loyalty to such a corrupted government is idolatry.

"THOU SHALT NOT BOW DOWN THYSELF TO THEM. NOR SERVE THEM."

EXODUS 20:5

The early persecuted Christians understood this choice. The Romans tested their fealty to the state by demanding that they swear "Caesar is lord," offer sacrifices to Roman gods, or swear an oath by the "luck of Caesar." They chose to obey God rather than men and were mercilessly slaughtered for their righteous resistance.



CHRISTIANS

SHOULD ONLY CALL EVIL

WHAT GOD CALLS EVIL

AND ALWAYS CALL GOOD WHAT

GOD CALLS GOOD.

CHRISTIANS MUST REMAIN
LOYAL TO THEIR
HIGHEST AUTHORITY

GOD

HIMSELF

ANYTHING
ELSE
IS

WE
OUGHT
TO OBEY
GOD RATHER
THAN MEN.

ACTS 5:29

NO
MAN
CAN SERVE
TWO MASTERS.

MATT. 6:24

IDOLATRY

**AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS,
WE MUST REMAIN FAITHFUL TO HIS RIGHTEOUS STANDARD.**

RESISTING RIGHTEOUS POWER IS RESISTING THE ORDINANCE OF GOD.

**WE DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT
TO ACCEPT, IGNORE, OR QUIETLY GO ALONG WITH WICKEDNESS
SIMPLY BECAUSE WE DON'T EXPECT
RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM MEN THAT DON'T FOLLOW GOD.**

RESISTING EVIL POWER IS NOT RESISTING THE ORDINANCE OF GOD.

**WE ARE TO CALL FOR
RIGHTEOUSNESS
FROM ALL MEN.**

**DUTY IS
OURS**

...

**RESULTS
BELONG
TO GOD.**



ROMANS 13:3

BE NOT
OVERCOME
WITH EVIL

OVERCOME
EVIL WITH
GOOD

THE RIGHTEOUS RESPONSE TO EVIL

GOD'S WORD REVEALS THAT THE RIGHTEOUS RESIST EVIL.

- Abraham gathered his 318 armed, trained servants and pursued the kings that kidnapped Lot. He destroyed them and rescued Lot. (Gen. 14)
- The Hebrew midwives lied to Pharaoh and refused to kill babies. (Ex. 1)
- Moses' parents hid him from Pharaoh. (Ex. 2)
- Rahab lied to the king of Jericho about the spies. (Josh. 2)
- David did not obey God's anointed, king Saul. (1 Samuel 18-24)
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused to bow down. (Dan. 3)
- Daniel refused to obey the king of Babylon. (Dan. 6)
- Joseph and Mary fled to Egypt to avoid Herod's destruction of children. (Matt. 2)
- Peter and John refused to stop preaching. (Acts 5)
- Paul and other Christians conspired against the authorities to execute Paul's escape in a basket. (Acts 9)

THOSE WHO DO NOT RESIST EVIL ARE EXAMPLES OF FAILURE.

- Lot tolerated the evil of Sodom and Gomorrah. (Gen. 19)
- Aaron made the golden calf. (Ex. 32)
- Eli did not restrain his wicked sons. (1 Sam. 2)
- The Corinthian church accepted and praised sexual infidelity. (1 Cor. 5)
- The churches of Pergamos and Thyatira did not resist evil. (Rev. 2)

The Scriptures declare that we are to be peaceful men; long-suffering; not brawlers; returning good for evil; leaving vengeance to God; ministering to the basic needs of our enemies; and suffering minor wrongs patiently. But...

WHEN MORE SEVERE FORMS OF EVIL COME, THE RIGHTEOUS RESIST.

Those that serve God are to be salt and light. We speak truth. We live by faith. We stand in the gap. We strive to protect the innocent - to rescue those led to slaughter. We seek justice. We expose and reprove the evil works of darkness. Acceptance of or submission to evil is not a testimony to the righteousness and goodness of God. We should never cloak cowardice in false piety, righteousness, or Christ-likeness for the sake of our own skins.

"WHO THROUGH FAITH SUBDUED KINGDOMS, WROUGHT RIGHTEOUSNESS, OBTAINED PROMISES, STOPPED THE MOUTHS OF LIONS, QUENCHED THE VIOLENCE OF FIRE, ESCAPED THE EDGE OF THE SWORD, OUT OF WEAKNESS WERE MADE STRONG, WAXED VALIANT IN FIGHT, TURNED TO FLIGHT THE ARMIES OF ALIENS."

HEBREWS 11:33-34

**"THEY HAVE SET UP KINGS,
BUT NOT BY ME: THEY HAVE
MADE PRINCES, AND I
KNEW IT NOT:"**

HOSEA 8:4

**"TAKE YOU WISE MEN, AND
UNDERSTANDING, AND KNOWN
AMONG YOUR TRIBES, AND I WILL
MAKE THEM RULERS OVER YOU."**

DEUTERONOMY 1:13

These Scriptures clearly teach that God does not establish every specific individual in authority. In Hosea, God declares that men established kings and princes without Him, and in Deuteronomy God told the people to choose their judges for themselves.

However, in John 19 Pilate told Jesus that he had the power to crucify or release Him, and Jesus responded that Pilate could have no power over Him unless it had been given to him from God. Romans 13 declares that the "powers that be are ordained of God," and Daniel 4:32 states, "the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men and giveth it to whomsoever he will." Why the apparent contradiction?

One mistake is to confound the position with the person. God ordains the position and function of righteous authority, but not always every individual. Sometimes God does establish specific individuals – like Moses, Saul, and David – and at other times He does not. The word "ordained" in Romans 13 means to appoint or establish. Since righteous authority is delegated authority and all authority comes from God, God indeed does commission or ordain authority. The righteous power that one man has over another man comes from God. But men are also prone to expand that authority unrighteously.

When God puts specific men in positions of authority, this does not mean that all acts or decisions by those who hold delegated authority are ordained or approved by God. Or that every order should be obeyed. The standard for obedience is righteousness. God anointed Saul king, but David, Michael, and Jonathan repeatedly disobeyed and resisted his evil actions (1 Samuel 19).

**WHEN THOSE WHO HAVE AUTHORITY JUDGE AND RULE
RIGHTEOUSLY, THOSE WHO RESIST ARE RESISTING AND OPPOSING
GOD. BUT WHEN WICKED MEN RULE UNRIGHTEOUSLY, THOSE THAT
RESIST ARE NOT RESISTING GOD - THEY ARE STANDING FOR
TRUTH AND JUSTICE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

THE SCOPE OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

PUNISH THOSE WHO DO EVIL | REWARD THOSE WHO DO GOOD

"SUBMIT YOURSELF TO EVERY ORDINANCE OF MAN FOR THE LORD'S SAKE: WHETHER IT BE TO THE KING, AS SUPREME; OR UNTO GOVERNORS, AS UNTO THEM THAT ARE SENT BY HIM (GOD) FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF EVILDOERS, AND FOR THE PRAISE OF THEM THAT DO WELL.

1 PETER 2:14

"FOR HE IS THE MINISTER OF GOD TO THEE FOR GOOD. BUT IF THOU DO THAT WHICH IS EVIL, BE AFRAID; FOR HE BEARETH NOT THE SWORD IN VAIN: FOR HE IS THE MINISTER OF GOD, A REVENGER TO EXECUTE WRATH UPON HIM THAT DOETH EVIL.

ROMANS 13:4

These verses are routinely read without regard for the qualifying statement. The God-delegated authority that one man has over other men is limited or constrained to punishing evildoers and praising the good. From these two passages, we can discern that the magistrate has three obligations.



DISCERN GOOD AND EVIL



PRAISE THE GOOD



PUNISH THE EVIL



**ALL MEN ARE OBLIGATED
TO SUBMIT TO THIS RIGHTEOUS RULE.**

BUT WHEN RULERS PERVERT THEIR AUTHORITY, THE RIGHTEOUS RESIST.

The civil magistrate is not free to redefine good and evil. He is not free to punish whatever he sees fit. He is not free to go beyond God's definition of good and evil "for the good of the people."

God does not have one standard of righteousness for individual behavior and another standard of righteousness for the individuals with civil authority.

HE DEMANDS RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM ALL MEN IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.

BUT AREN'T CHRISTIANS SUPPOSED TO SUBMIT?

Christians obey God and resist unrighteous rulers when they expand their authority beyond the scope God has given them. If Christians obey God, righteous rulers would only have praise for them. Christians may choose to suffer minor wrongs for the sake of peace, but are not obligated to obey anything but God's version of good and evil.

JESUS AND HIS CIVIL MAGISTRATES

The Pharisees and Sadducees ruled Israel under the Roman overlords during the time of Christ. The Scriptures clearly reveal that these rulers had delegated authority to arrest, bind, imprison, trial, and punish rule breakers.

- Jesus declared that the scribes and Pharisees "sit in Moses' seat" - the place of civil authority. (Matt. 23)
- Rulers brought the woman caught in adultery to Jesus (John 8)
- The Sanhedrin tried Jesus before turning him over to Pilate (Matt. 26)
- The high priest put the apostles in common prison, beat them, and commanded them regarding their speech (Acts 5)
- Saul was a bounty hunter commissioned by the Sanhedrin to deliver "law breakers" for trial and punishment - even death. (Acts 26)

JESUS & HIS APOSTLES DIDN'T OBEY

Jesus openly disobeyed the civil magistrates' commandments and taught his disciples to do the same when they refused to wash before eating or healed the sick on the Sabbath. These laws were often referred to as the "traditions of the elders." However, Jesus' rebuke in Mark 7 makes it clear they were commandments, or laws.

"HOWBEIT IN VAIN THEY DO WORSHIP ME, TEACHING FOR DOCTRINES THE COMMANDMENTS OF MEN."

MARK 7:7

Christ's followers should obey all laws that reflect God's standard of good and evil. But Christians are not obligated to submit to rulers when they extend their authority beyond the scope God has ordained.

"AND WHEN THEY HAD BROUGHT THEM, THEY SET THEM BEFORE THE COUNCIL: AND THE HIGH PRIEST ASKED THEM, SAYING, DID NOT WE STRAITLY COMMAND YOU THAT YE SHOULD NOT TEACH IN THIS NAME? AND, BEHOLD, YE HAVE FILLED JERUSALEM WITH YOUR DOCTRINE, AND INTEND TO BRING THIS MAN'S BLOOD UPON US. THEN PETER AND THE OTHER APOSTLES ANSWERED AND SAID, WE OUGHT TO OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MEN."

ACTS 5:27-29

WHAT SHOULD CHRISTIANS DO?

REPENT OF STATE IDOLATRY

LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES

INTERPOSE ON BEHALF OF THE INNOCENT

FOREBEAR MINOR WRONGS AND PERSECUTIONS

STRIVE TO BE AT PEACE WITH ALL MEN

LEAVE VENGEANCE TO GOD

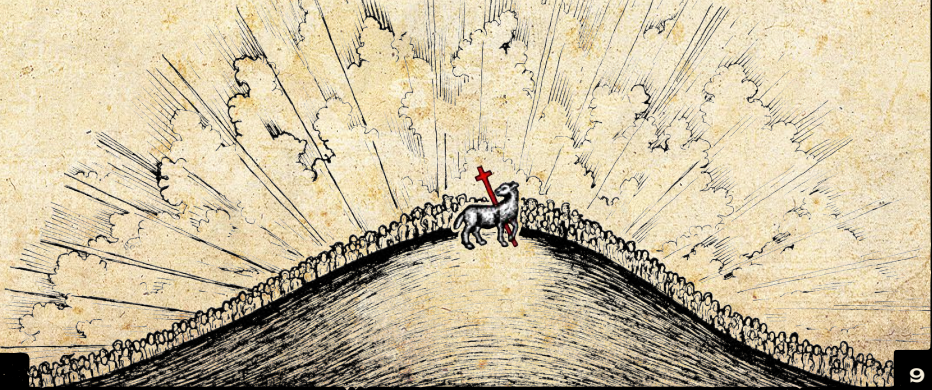
**DEMAND JUSTICE AND SEEK TO ESTABLISH
RIGHTEOUS JUDGMENT IN THE LAND**

**BE A REGULAR, VISIBLE, PUBLIC DISPLAY OF
OPPOSITION TO ALL DECRIMINALIZED EVILS**

RESIST EVIL WHEREVER IT IS FOUND

**SUPPORT LESSER MAGISTRATES WHO RIGHTEOUSLY
CHALLENGE AND INTERPOSE THEMSELVES AGAINST
LAWLESS SUPERIOR MAGISTRATES**

**HOLD ALL EARTHLY AUTHORITIES ACCOUNTABLE
TO GOD'S STANDARD OF RIGHT AND WRONG**



THE DOCTRINE OF THE LESSER MAGISTRATE

The **Doctrine of the Lesser Magistrates** declares that when the higher-ranking civil authority makes unjust or immoral laws, policies, or court opinions – the lower or lesser-ranking civil authority has a God-given right and duty to refuse obedience to the higher authority. If necessary, the lesser authority may even actively resist the higher authority.

The Roman Emperor Trajan succinctly summed up the doctrine while appointing a subordinate authority. Trajan handed him a sword and said, *“Use this sword against my enemies, if I give righteous commands; but if I give unrighteous commands, use it against me.”*

John Knox – well-known churchman from the Reformation – developed the lesser magistrate doctrine in his *Appellation to the Nobles of Scotland* in 1558. Citing over 70 passages of Scripture to establish the doctrine, Knox wrote to the lesser magistrates of his day, *“For now the common song of all men is, ‘We must obey our kings, be they good or be they bad; for God has so commanded.’”* Knox went on to say, *“True it is, God has commanded kings to be obeyed; but likewise true it is, that in things which they commit against His glory, He has commanded no obedience.”*

THE STANDARD UPON WHICH CHRISTIAN MEN BUILT THIS DOCTRINE:



“DIVINE LAW TRUMPS HUMAN LAWS.”

This was understood by Western Man for nearly 1500 years. Whether you read Alfred the Great in the 9th century or John of Salisbury in the 12th century or William Blackstone in the 18th century – they all declared the law of God to be the objective standard to which all men and all governments of men were accountable.

For example, **William Blackstone** (1723-1780) is the most cited legal scholar in the writings of America’s founding fathers. His *Commentaries on the Laws of England* are the bedrock of American jurisprudence. Blackstone referred to God’s law as *“those superior laws,”* and stated that *“upon these two foundations, the law of nature and the law of revelation [God’s written law], depend all human laws; that is to say, no human laws should be suffered to contradict these.”*

LEARN MORE AT: LESSERMAGISTRATE.COM

WHEN CIVIL AUTHORITIES

**MAKE UNJUST OR IMMORAL LAWS
WHICH CLEARLY CONTRADICT THE**

**HIGHER LAW
OF GOD**

**LESSER AUTHORITIES SHOULD NOT
BLITHELY OBEY THEM**

RATHER, THEY HAVE THE DUTY AND OBLIGATION

TO INTERPOSE THEMSELVES

**AGAINST THE CIVIL AUTHORITY'S ACTIONS
IN ORDER TO REIN IN HIS**

TYRANNY.

RESISTING THE TYRANTS

Once upon a time, there was a king, who like others before him, did not honor God. The king, the government officials, the law enforcement officers, the entire nation had turned away from the Lord. So God sent warnings and admonitions...God sent a prophet. And, as oftentimes before, the prophet was not well received.

The prophet Jeremiah sent a message to King Zedekiah that his nation would be conquered by its enemy, the Babylonians. Jeremiah proclaimed God's word boldly among the people. A law enforcement official accused Jeremiah of treason, arrested him, and took him before the princes. These magistrates, enraged at God's messenger, beat and imprisoned him.

Yet the king secretly queried Jeremiah, asking for news from God. Jeremiah replied with the same prophecy as before: "You will be delivered into the hands of the king of Babylon." Jeremiah then challenged the king regarding his unjust imprisonment; the king assented, improving the prophet's confinement circumstances. Sadly, the reprieve did not last.

The princes, still wroth with Jeremiah's message of truth, and claiming that the prophet desired harm unto the people, demanded of King Zedekiah that Jeremiah be put to death. The king, professing that he was powerless against these magistrates, consented to the princes, delivering Jeremiah into their hands. Their desires unrestrained, the princes threw Jeremiah into a deep pit, where he sunk into mire, deprived of food and water.

But Ebedmelech, a servant of the king, approached Zedekiah, decried the evil treatment of Jeremiah; and pleaded for justice on his behalf. King Zedekiah told Ebedmelech to take 30 men and rescue Jeremiah before it was too late. And so they did.

Upon Jeremiah's release, King Zedekiah once again entreated him for God's word, secretly promising he would not harm the prophet, regardless of the message. Jeremiah told Zedekiah that the nation's and the king's only escape from assured doom was surrender to the Babylonians. King Zedekiah admitted that his fear of mockery and reprisal at the hands of his people prevented him from doing as God commanded. Jeremiah exhorted the king to do right and obey God's word, but all for naught. The prophecy delivered by Jeremiah came to pass.

The Babylonians did indeed besiege Jerusalem, leaving death and destruction in their wake. They slew the nobles and they slew Zedekiah's sons while he was forced to watch, afterward gouging out his eyes, binding him in chains, and burning his palace. Yet the prophet Jeremiah was spared, as was faithful Ebedmelech.

"But I will deliver thee in that day, saith the Lord: and thou shalt not be given into the hand of the men of whom thou art afraid. For I will surely deliver thee, and thou shalt not fall by the sword, but thy life shall be a prey for thee: because thou hast put thy trust in me, saith the Lord" (Jeremiah 39: 16-18).



WHAT IS AUTHORITY?

"LET EVERY SOUL BE SUBJECT UNTO THE HIGHER POWERS. FOR THERE IS NO POWER BUT OF GOD..."

ROMANS 13

"For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him."

COLOSSIANS 1:16

The word for authority here is power. Authority is the God-given right to force obedience or to punish for failure to obey. It is physical power that one man exercises over another man.

GOD IS THE SOURCE OF ALL RIGHTEOUS AUTHORITY

ALL AUTHORITY IS DELEGATED AUTHORITY

**GOD DELEGATES HIS AUTHORITY TO MEN
ONLY FOR RIGHTEOUS ENDS.**

Every manifestation of authority or every claim on authority that men make is not righteous. God warned the Israelites in I Samuel 8 that the king they desired would bring tyranny over them by unrighteously taking what was not his.

Romans 13 declares that all men - every soul - are to be subject to the highest power - God. This is a universal, absolute truth. No man is above God's law including those in civil government.

God created all men equal. It is a grave, serious matter when one man has the right to use power - in whatever form - to compel obedience from fellow men.

"AND HE CHANGETH THE TIMES AND THE SEASONS: HE REMOVETH KINGS,
AND SETTETH UP KINGS: HE GIVETH WISDOM UNTO THE WISE, AND
KNOWLEDGE TO THEM THAT KNOW UNDERSTANDING."

DANIEL 2:21

WHAT SHOULD THOSE IN AUTHORITY DO?

CIVIL MAGISTRATES

HAVE A CHOICE TO MAKE:

DO THEY SERVE MEN
FIRST AND THEN GOD?

OR

DO THEY SERVE GOD
FIRST AND THEN MEN?

THEIR ACTIONS REVEAL THEIR CHOICE.

If they serve God, their duty is clear. They must actively resist evil in meaningful ways or resign their position - unless resignation would violate their oath of office.

Those with authority must serve God first, and not men. Acknowledge that their power and authority are delegated to them from God. Acknowledge that God will judge all those with authority by His righteous standard. Repent of creating, protecting, and/or enforcing alternate standards of good and evil.

**BEGIN TO INTERPOSE ON BEHALF OF THE INNOCENT
CEASE TO RESTRICT OR PROHIBIT
RIGHTEOUS OPPOSITION TO EVIL**

SPECIFICALLY

- Legislators must work to overturn all unjust legislation and only support legislation that meets God's standard of right and wrong. Men are not law makers - God is the only law maker. Men are obligated to discern good and evil and establish it in the land.
- Judges must refuse to enforce any statute or law that is contrary to God's law.
- Jury members should refuse to enforce unrighteous laws and judge disputes by God's law not man's law.
- Law enforcement officers must only bind and imprison those that violate God's laws. They should never punish offenses that God does not deem evil. They should protect the weak and the innocent. They should cease to serve those who murder and oppress them

GOD ALONE MAKES LAWS | RIGHTEOUS MEN ENFORCE THEM.

WE LIVE IN A SINFUL NATION

OUR NATION HAS REJECTED GOD'S
STANDARD OF RIGHT AND WRONG.

ADULTERY PORNOGRAPHY PROSTITUTION
HOMOSEXUALITY WITCHCRAFT SATAN WORSHIP
AND OUR GRAVEST NATIONAL SIN

ABORTION

RUN RAMPANT THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

Our culture embraces Godless relativistic standards of right and wrong, and celebrates unjust laws in the name of progress, tolerance, and love. As society drowns in its depravity, professing followers of Jesus Christ are timid with the Truth of God's word and fearful to publicly condemn sin as sin. Governors, judges, and law enforcement officials protect the "rights" of the people to practice wickedness and punish those who oppose evil and do good.



RIGHTEOUS MEN

**SERVE GOD IN FAITH AND STAND BETWEEN
THE WICKED AND THE INNOCENT.**

THEY DO NOT RUN | THEY DO NOT HIDE | THEY DO NOT FEAR

January 28, 1989... A Las Vegas motorcycle police officer was arrested on duty and escorted to jail by fellow officers for joining 92 Christians blocking access into a Family Planning Abortion Facility. Compelled by the Oath of Office he'd sworn to uphold, the professional standards of the Police Officers' Code of Ethics and his fundamental duty before God, Officer Chet Gallagher exhorted his fellow officers not to arrest the wrong people; the rescuers doing the policeman's job of protecting the innocent.



Two police supervisors approached and the sergeant ordered him to leave the scene immediately, instead he remained standing, interposing with those seated behind him who were blocking the doorway. He told the sergeant that he was only doing his job as a police officer and that he simply could not walk away from

what he knew to be a "murder in progress." Officer Gallagher and the other 92 rescuers were charged with unlawful assembly, a misdemeanor. He was later fired for insubordination by refusing to obey the order of a superior.

OFFICER ARRESTED — Las Vegas police officer Chet Gallagher, center, is arrested Saturday by fellow officers at an abortion protest at a Las Vegas family-planning clinic. Wayne C. Kobby/Review-Journal

RIGHTEOUS MEN INTERPOSE

THEY PUT THEIR OWN LIVES ON THE LINE TO PROTECT THE INNOCENT.

THEY DO NOT SEEK THEIR OWN SELF-PRESERVATION

**"WHO WILL RISE UP FOR ME AGAINST THE EVILDOERS?
OR WHO WILL STAND UP FOR ME AGAINST
THE WORKERS OF INIQUITY?"**

PSALM 94:16

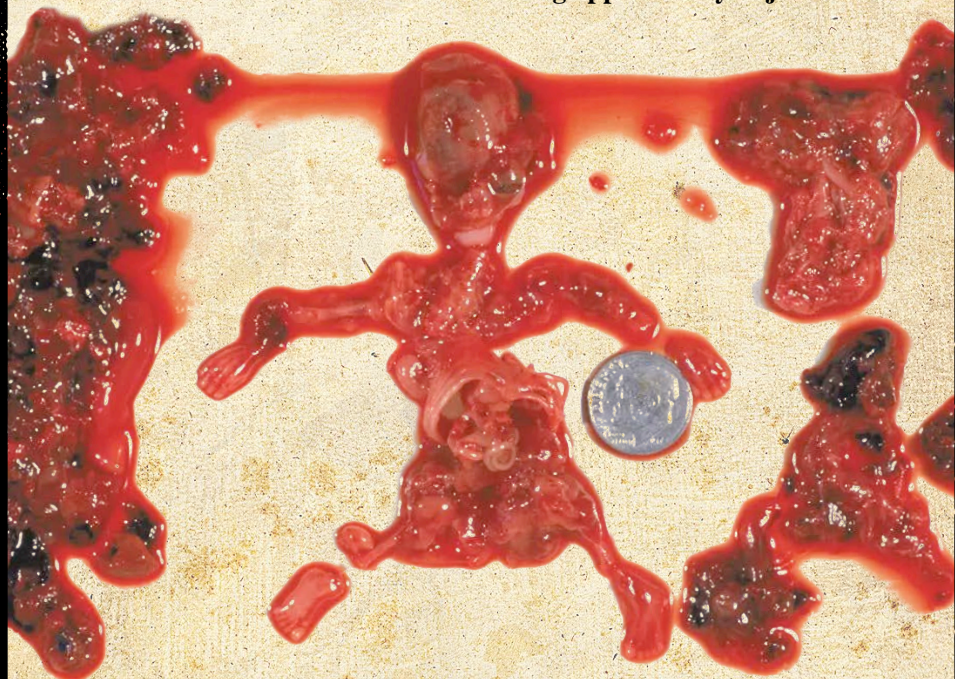
**"AND I SOUGHT FOR A MAN AMONG THEM, THAT SHOULD MAKE UP
THE HEDGE, AND STAND IN THE GAP BEFORE ME FOR THE LAND..."**

EZEKIEL 22:27-31 | ARE YOU THAT MAN?

RIGHTEOUS MEN

**PUT THEIR FAITH INTO ACTION AND
PROTECT THE INNOCENT FROM DESTRUCTION**

It is good to possess a biblical understanding of the purpose and limitations of civil government. But, it is more needful to **APPLY** this understanding and take action on behalf of those being oppressed by unjust laws.



**THE MOST EGREGIOUS TYRANNY IS THAT WHICH UNJUSTLY
TAKES OR AUTHORIZES THE TAKING OF INNOCENT LIFE.**

That very tyranny now exists in our country. 23,000 innocent and helpless children are being dehumanized and slaughtered every week through decriminalized abortion. This slaughter is endorsed and protected at every level of our government.

These children are your neighbors. They are fellow image bearers of the Living God. They are being murdered in the midst of hundreds of millions of people who claim to oppose the abortion holocaust. Thousands of lesser magistrates possess the right and authority necessary to defy the tyrannical authorities ruling our nation.

INTERPOSITION ON BEHALF OF THESE INNOCENT NEIGHBORS IS THE TRUE TEST OF OUR SERVICE TO CHRIST THE KING.

WILL YOU RISE UP AND STAND IN THE GAP FOR THE LEAST OF THESE?

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Shouldn't we all get a say in what society defines as good and evil?

God is the arbiter of good and evil. He has declared that men should love Him and love their neighbors as themselves. Truth, justice, and judgment flow from Him. Individuals or societies that reject His truth and demand the right to "rule" themselves by any other standard are wicked, suffer the direct consequences of their sin, and God judges them accordingly.

What right do you have to force me to accept your version of right and wrong?

Every society enforces some standard of right and wrong. God is the author of the true and just standard of righteousness. We are witnesses and advocates for this truth.

But what if I don't believe in your God?

God's existence does not depend on your belief. If you do not believe, you lack the cleansing power of God administered through the blood of His only son Jesus Christ. God desires that all men repent toward Him and have faith in Jesus Christ. All men will be judged by God according to their works and those found lacking the blood of Christ will suffer eternal damnation.

But followers of God haven't always ruled righteously!

True. All men are fallible. But the shortcomings of those that follow God are not a valid basis to reject God's righteous standard and demands - they extend to all men in all times. Any authority that deviates from God's righteous standard will be held accountable.

What about the constitution and separation of church and state?

The documents and laws of men only have authority when they mirror the truth of God. If they do not reflect His truth, they should be rejected. The Constitution nowhere declares the separation of Church and State. Rather, the US Supreme Court twisted Thomas Jefferson's words in a letter to the Danbury Baptists in the *McCullum v. Board of Education* (1948) case. In truth, the Constitution forbids the State from invading the realm of the Church, but it does not forbid the Church from influencing the realm of the State.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Doesn't the Supreme Court decide right & wrong for us?

When any authority decides a conflict according to God's righteous standards, they fulfill their God-given ordination. When they pervert justice and truth, they reject their commission, forfeit their God-delegated authority, and should not be obeyed.

The Christians in the New Testament don't seem to be concerned with the wicked rulers that governed them, so why should we focus on it?

The New Testament includes numerous passages that address unrighteous authority. The focus of the New Testament is not a compendium on civil government, rather, it is upon the finished work of Christ.

Doesn't Matthew 5:39 say to "resist not evil?"

Verse 38 says, "Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth." Like Romans 12:19, this passage forbids personal vengeance and advocates forbearing minor wrongs with love and patience. However, this does not mean that civil magistrates should not punish evil or that it would be wrong to resist more severe forms of evil. Vengeance is wrong, but justice, judgment and righteousness should run down "as a mighty stream." (See page 6).

Should all sins against God be punished by civil authority?

All crimes are sin, but not all sins are crimes. The tenth commandment makes lust or envy a sin (Ex. 20: 17), and Jesus condemned lust equating it to adultery (Matt. 5:28). However, for obvious practical reasons, God's written law in the Old Testament did not make lust or envy a crime to be punished by civil authority.

Are you sovereign citizens, anarchists, or anti-government?

No. We are servants of God alone. God establishes all righteous authority. To the degree that civil magistrates righteously fulfill their ordination, then we praise them and willingly submit. But when they pervert their ordination and abuse their authority, they become tyrants and we owe them no service, allegiance, or obedience beyond God's standard of right and wrong.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Didn't Daniel and his friends submit to captivity?

Yes. However, God clearly ordained their captivity as judgment, and even in their captivity, they resisted. Christians will have to individually decide their willingness to submit to captivity and not compromise their obedience to God. But, resisting the unjust subjugation and slavery of other men is not unbiblical or wicked. (Gen. 14) Liberty is not a right granted by men in government as they see fit; freedom is our natural right from God.

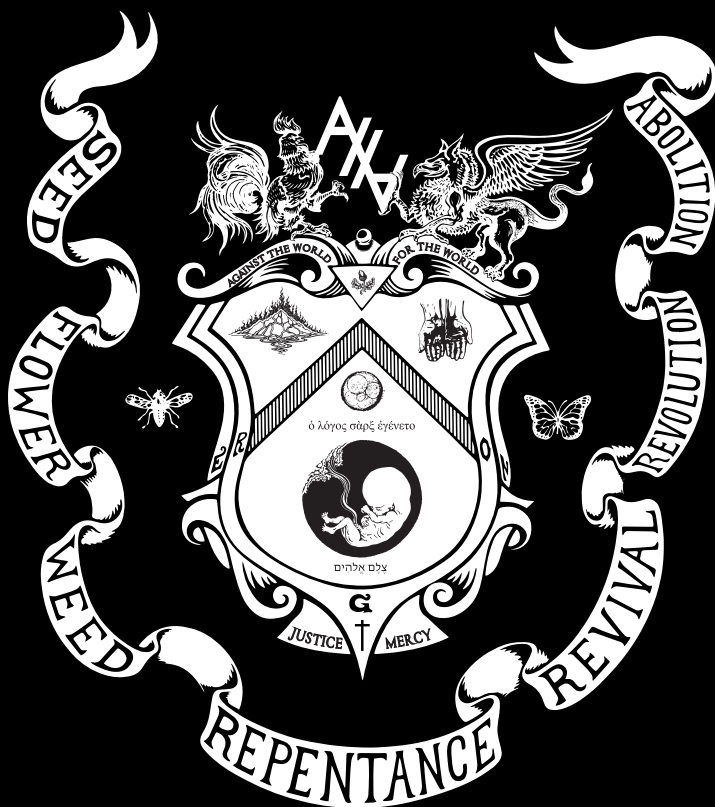
Aren't you being impractical? If submission is contingent on righteous ruling, then who would ever submit since there are few, if any, righteous rulers?

Christians are not called to live what is practical. By faith, we live as ambassadors of Jesus Christ and are salt and light in the midst of darkness. History proves that most men submit to unrighteous rulers out of fear and then create a theology to defend their submission. But like John the Baptist in Mark 6:18, our call of repentance toward God doesn't just extend to other followers of God, but to those in authority over us. When we disobey an unjust or immoral law, we benefit those in authority and the people of the nation as a whole. We benefit those in authority because, due to our disobedience, they are confronted with the reality of their rebellion against God and have opportunity to turn from their unjust and/or immoral deeds. We benefit the people of the nation as a whole because we act as a check against tyranny.



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INTERNATIONAL COALITION ABOLITIONIST SOCIETIES



Following in the footsteps of former abolitionist movements, we aim to end one of the greatest human miseries and moral evils ever to be entrenched in our world. Human beings are created in the Image of Almighty God, the very Creator of the universe. The weakest and most helpless among us have been subjected by this wicked culture to accepted, legal, and systematic destruction.

We are simply attempting to answer the question:

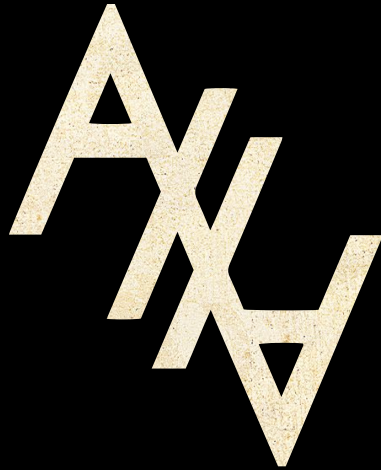
**WHAT DOES CHRISTIANITY LOOK LIKE IN
A CULTURE THAT PRACTICES CHILD SACRIFICE?**

And put our answer into action.

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**"WE OUGHT TO OBEY GOD
RATHER THAN MEN."**

ACTS 5:29



**"WOE UNTO THEM THAT CALL EVIL
GOOD, AND GOOD EVIL; THAT PUT
DARKNESS FOR LIGHT, AND LIGHT FOR
DARKNESS; THAT PUT BITTER FOR
SWEET, AND SWEET FOR BITTER!"**

ISAIAH 5:20

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