

God's order for disobeying authority

1. Being subject to the governing authorities:

Romans 13:1-7 (NASB95)

- 1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.
- 2 Therefore whoever resists authorities has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.
- 3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same.
- 4 For it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.
- 5 Therefore it is necessary to be in subjection, not only because of wrath, but also for conscience' sake.
- 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for rulers are servants of God, devoting themselves to this very thing.
- 7 Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

2. Disobedience to governing authorities and Methods of disobedience:

Disobeying: when the command, the mandate, the order or the law was specifically in contradiction to a revealed mandate from God.

mandate (ˈmænd.ə.riːt) *noun*
an official order or commission to do something
a mandate to seek the release of political prisoners.

It must be more than just an opinion that it's the wrong thing to do

Exodus 1:5-22 (NKJV)

- 1 Now these are the names of the children of Israel who came to Egypt, each man and his household came with Jacob:
- 2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah;
- 3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin;
- 4 Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.
- 5 All those who were descendants of Jacob were seventy persons (for Joseph was in Egypt already).
- 6 And Joseph died, all his brothers, and all that generation.
- 7 But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty, and the land was filled with them.
- 8 Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.
- 9 And he said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we;
- 10 come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land."
- 11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses.
- 12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in dread of the children of Israel.
- 13 So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor.
- 14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor.

Disobedient midwives:

- 15 Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew **midwives** of whom the name of one was **Shiphrah** and the name of the other **Puah**.
- 16 and he said, "When you do the duties of a **midwife** for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, **if it is a son, then you shall kill him**; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live."
- 17 But the **midwives** **feared God**, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.
- 18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?"

Truth or deception?

deception

- 19 And **the midwives said** to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively and give birth before the **midwives** come to them."
- 20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very strong.
- 21 And so it was, because the **midwives** **feared God**, that He provided households for them.
- 22 So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive."

God's instruction to deceive the enemy

Joshua 8:1-29 (NKJV)

- 1 Now **the Lord said to Joshua:** "Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; take all the people of war with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land.
- 2 And you shall do to Ai and to Jericho and to King. Only its spoil and its cattle you shall take as booty for yourselves. **Lay an ambush for the city behind it.**"
- 3 So Joshua arose, and all the people of war, to go up against Ai; and Joshua chose thirty thousand mighty men of valor and sent them away by night.
- 4 And he commanded them, saying, "Behold, you shall lie in ambush against the city, behind the city. Do not go very far from the city, but all of you be ready."
- 5 Then I and all the people who are with me will approach the city; and it will come about, when they come out against us as at the first, that we shall flee before them.
- 6 For they will come out after us till we have drawn them from the city, for they will say, "They are fleeing before us as at the first." Therefore we will flee before them.
- 7 Then you shall rise from the ambush and seize the city, for the Lord your God will deliver it into your hand.
- 8 And it will be, when you have taken the city, that you shall set the city on fire. **According to the commandment of the Lord you shall do. See, I have commanded you.**"
- 9 Joshua therefore sent them out; and they went to lie in ambush, and stayed between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of Ai, but Joshua lodged that night among the people.
- 10 Then Joshua rose up early in the morning and mustered the people, and went up, he and the elders of Israel, before the people to Ai.
- 11 And all the people of war who were with him went up and drew near; and they came before the city and camped on the north side of Ai. Now a valley lay between them and Ai.
- 12 So he took about five thousand men and set them in ambush between Bethel and Ai, on the west side of the city.
- 13 And when they had set the people, all the army that was on the north of the city, and its rear guard on the west of the city, Joshua went that night into the midst of the valley.
- 14 Now it happened, when the king of Ai saw it, that the men of the city hurried and rose early and went out against Israel to battle, he and all his people, at an appointed place before the plain. But he did not know that there was an ambush against him behind the city.
- 15 And Joshua and all Israel made as if they were beaten before them, and fled by the way of the wilderness.
- 16 So all the people who were in Ai were called together to pursue them. And they pursued Joshua and were drawn away from the city.
- 17 There was not a man left in Ai or Bethel who did not go out after Israel. So they left the city open and pursued Israel.
- 18 Then the Lord said to Joshua, "Stretch out the spear that is in your hand toward Ai, for I will give it into your hand." And Joshua stretched out the spear that was in his hand toward the city.
- 19 So those in ambush arose quickly out of their place; they ran as soon as he had stretched out his hand, and they entered the city and took it, and hurried to set the city on fire.
- 20 And when the men of Ai looked behind them, they saw, and behold, the smoke of the city according to heaven. So they had no power to flee this way or that way, and the people who had fled to the wilderness turned back on the pursuers.
- 21 Now when Joshua and all Israel saw that the ambush had taken the city and that the smoke of the city ascended, they turned back and struck down the men of Ai.
- 22 Then the others came out of the city against them; so they were caught in the midst of Israel, some on this side and some on that side. And they struck them down, so that they let none of them remain or escape.
- 23 But the king of Ai they took alive, and brought him to Joshua.
- 24 And it came to pass when Israel had made an end of slaying all the inhabitants of Ai in the field, in the wilderness where they pursued them, and when they all had fallen by the edge of the sword until they were consumed, that all the Israelites returned to Ai and struck with the edge of the sword.
- 25 So it was that all who let that day, both men and women, were twelve thousand—all the people of Ai.
- 26 For Joshua did not draw back his hand, with which he stretched out the spear, until he had utterly destroyed all the inhabitants of Ai.
- 27 Only the livestock and the spoil of that city Israel took as booty for themselves, according to the word of the Lord which He had commanded Joshua.
- 28 So Joshua burned Ai and made it a heap forever, a desolation to this day.
- 29 And the king of Ai he hanged on a tree until evening. And as soon as the sun was down, Joshua commanded that they should take his corpse down from the tree, cast it at the entrance of the gate of the city, and raise over it a great heap of stones that remain to this day.

Joshua 2:1-13 (NKJV)

- 1 Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Achora Grove to spy secretly, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went, and came to the house of a **harlot named Rahab**, and lodged there.
- 2 And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, "Behold, men have come here tonight from the children of Israel to search out the country."
- 3 So the king of Jericho sent to **Rahab**, saying, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to search out all the country."
- 4 Then the woman took the two men and hid them. **So she said, "Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from."**
- 5 And it happened as the gate was being shut, when it was dark, that the men went out. **Where the men went I do not know; pursue them quickly, for you may overtake them."**
- 6 And she had brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the eaves of the roof, which she had laid in order on the roof.
- 7 Then the men pursued them by the road to the Jordan, to the ford. And as soon as those who pursued them had gone out, they shut the gate.
- 8 Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof, and said to the men, "I know that the Lord has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are dumbfounded because of you.
- 9 For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt; and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.
- 10 And as soon as we heard these things, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath.
- 11 Now therefore, I beg you, swear to me by the Lord, since I have shown you kindness, that you also will show kindness to my father's house, and give me a true oath.
- 12 And spare my father, my mother, my brothers, my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death."

Disobedient parents:

Exodus 2:1-6 (NKJV)

- 1 And **a man of the house of Levi went and took as wife** a daughter of Levi.
- 2 **So the woman conceived and bore a son**. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months.
- 3 But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river's bank.
- 4 And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.
- 5 Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river. And her maidens walked along the riverside; and when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it.
- 6 And when she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."

Daniel's method for disobeying the governing authorities:

He did not pick a fight, but he considered the need of the authority over him

Daniel 1:1-21 (NKJV)

- 1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.
- 2 And **the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand**, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into Babylon to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god.
- 3 Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles.
- 4 young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans.
- 5 And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of that time they might serve before the king."
- 6 Now from among those of the sons of Judah were **Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah**.
- 7 To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave **Daniel** the name Belteshazzar; to **Hananiah**, **Shadrach**; to **Mishael**, **Meshach**; and to **Azariah**, **Abed-Nego**.
- 8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.
- 9 Now God had brought Daniel into favor and goodwill with the chief of the eunuchs.
- 10 And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your food and drink. For why should he see your faces looking worse than the young men who are your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king."
- 11 So Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,
- 12 "Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink.
- 13 Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king's delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants."
- 14 So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days.
- 15 And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies.
- 16 Thus the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.
- 17 As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.
- 18 Now at the end of the days, when the king had said that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.
- 19 Then the king interviewed them, and among them all none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they served before the king.
- 20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm.
- 21 Thus Daniel continued until the first year of King Cyrus.

Should we disobey because it doesn't fit a Biblical pattern or a Biblical principle?

If the government mandates me **to do** something that God tells me **not to do**

or tells me not to do something God has told me **to do**, then I have the right to disobey that particular command.

That's the difference between disobeying a direct command, and the idea that it doesn't fit a Biblical pattern or a Biblical principle.

But

Just because there's a biblical pattern that indicates no property tax; that does not give us the right not to pay property tax

The indication is that the two midwives Shiphrah and Puah were the head of the midwives union

Hebrews 11:23 (NKJV)
23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents because they saw he was a beautiful child; and **they were not afraid of the king's command.**

In some way the Kings delicacies were in direct contradiction to God's commandments for the children of Israel's consumption