

The background of the slide features a close-up, slightly blurred image of an American flag with its stars and stripes. In the foreground, an open book with a dark cover and visible pages is shown, resting on a surface. The text is overlaid on this background.

# God and Government

Responses to an Overreaching Authority

Part 1

- Ex. 1:8 Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.
- Ex. 1:9 He said to his people, “Behold, the people of the sons of Israel are more and mightier than we.
- Ex. 1:10 “Come, let us deal wisely with them, or else they will multiply and in the event of war, they will also join themselves to those who hate us, and fight against us and depart from the land.”
- Ex. 1:11 So they appointed taskmasters over them to afflict them with hard labor. And they built for Pharaoh storage cities, Pithom and Raamses.
- Ex. 1:12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and the more they spread out, so that they were in dread of the sons of Israel.
- Ex. 1:13 The Egyptians compelled the sons of Israel to labor rigorously;
- Ex. 1:14 and they made their lives bitter with hard labor in mortar and bricks and at all kinds of labor in the field, all their labors which they rigorously imposed on them.

- Ex. 1:15 Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other was named Puah;
- Ex. 1:16 and he said, “When you are helping the Hebrew women to give birth and see them upon the birthstool, if it is a son, then you shall put him to death; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live.”
- Ex. 1:17 But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt had commanded them, but let the boys live.
- Ex. 1:18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this thing, and let the boys live?”
- Ex. 1:19 The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not as the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife can get to them.”
- Ex. 1:20 So God was good to the midwives, and the people multiplied, and became very mighty.

How do you respond to an overreaching, out of line authority?

# Review of first three messages

- ● **Msg 1 - All authority is God's. He delegates it to whom He wishes to accomplish His purposes. We, as believers, are of God's kingdom – use your current freedom for God and His kingdom purpose – proclaiming and living the gospel**
- ● **Msg 2 - God has established government to be “a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil...” (Rms 13:4) The norm is to submit to and obey its authority, trusting God to work through it.**
- ● **Msg 3 - Government is not the only authority structure. There are others that are directly accountable to God. An authority that oversteps its bounds into another's, is stealing that authority.**

# When to Obey God Rather than Men?

Mandatory  
Possibly Optional

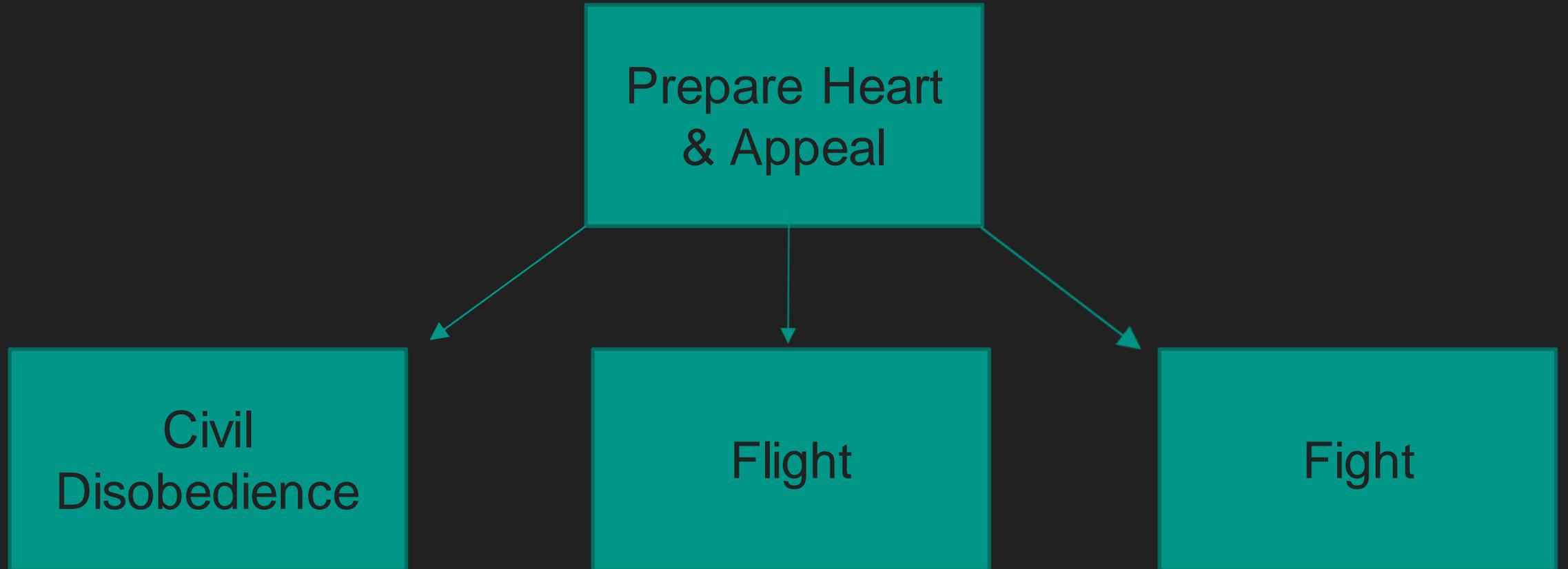
- **When we are asked to sin. – 1 Peter 3:18; Romans 3:8**
- **When we are told not to preach the gospel - Acts 4:17- 19**
- **When we cannot do what we have been asked to do in faith. – Romans 14:23**
- **When authority given is being stolen**

# How to Respond to Unscriptural Authority?

Need to be in the right place to decide.

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Prepare heart -- Grace, Consideration & Prayer – Matt 5:39; James 1:19
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Appeal to Authority – Daniel 1:8 ff

# When your authority must be disobeyed



# Civil Disobedience – noncompliance

- On the most widely accepted account, civil disobedience is a public, non-violent and conscientious breach of law undertaken with the aim of bringing about a change in laws or government policies (Rawls 1999, 320). On this account, people who engage in civil disobedience operate at the boundary of fidelity to law, have general respect for their regime, and are willing to accept the legal consequences of their actions, as evidence of their fidelity to the rule of law. Civil disobedience, given its place at the boundary of fidelity to law, is said on this view to fall between legal protest, on the one hand, and conscientious refusal, uncivil disobedience, militant protest, organized forcible resistance, and revolutionary action, on the other hand.

# Flight – physically

- King David from Saul – 1 Sam 18:ff
- Joseph and Mary & Baby Jesus from Herod – Matt 2:12
- Paul from the ethnarch of Damascus – 2 Cor 11: 32-33

# Flight through Hiding/Lies – Three Positions

**1. None ever in any manner – either verbally or through physical actions – ends up like civil disobedience**

**2. Physical deception ok, but not verbal lying**

<https://frame-poythress.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/2013WhyLying.pdf>

**3. Ok in matters of war and saving a life**

<https://dougwils.com/books-and-culture/s7-engaging-the-culture/deception-and-the-culture-war.html>

# More Thoughts on Lies and Deception

- **God's Character**
  - He hates lying – Prov 12:22
  - He cannot Lie – Titus 1:2
- **Can you see Jesus lying (answer no)**
  - Wisdom – Jn 8; Matt 10:16
  - Planning – Jn 7:1; Pro 22:3
  - Use the Gospel to counterattack – ex. Luke 20:1-4