



CITIZENS

OF

TWO KINGDOMS

— OUR LOYALTY IS TO CHRIST. OUR CALLING IS IN THE WORLD. —

13 When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing before him with his drawn sword in his hand. And Joshua went to him and said to him, “Are you for us, or for our adversaries?”

14 And he said, “No; but I am the commander of the army of the Lord. Now I have come.” And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped[c] and said to him, “What does my lord say to his servant?”

15 And the commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, “Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.

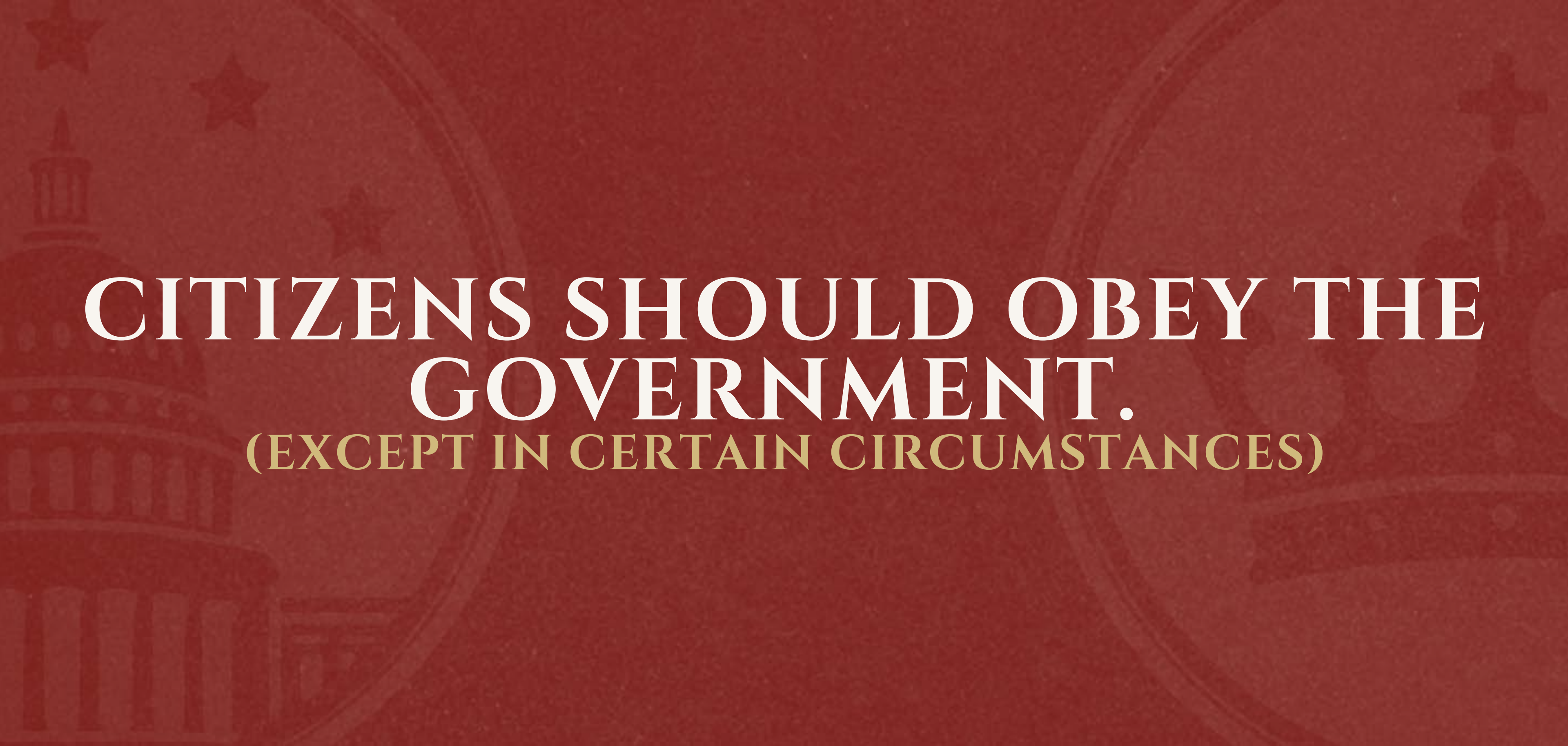
— JOSHUA 5:13-15 —



ALL HUMAN GOVERNMENT
FINDS ITS FINAL END IN THE
ETERNAL REIGN OF KING JESUS.

BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES CONCERNING GOVERNMENT:

- God is sovereign over all nations.
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CITIZENS SHOULD OBEY THE
GOVERNMENT.

(EXCEPT IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES)

LET EVERY PERSON BE SUBJECT TO THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES. FOR THERE IS NO AUTHORITY EXCEPT FROM GOD, AND THOSE THAT EXIST HAVE BEEN INSTITUTED BY GOD.

ROMANS 13:1

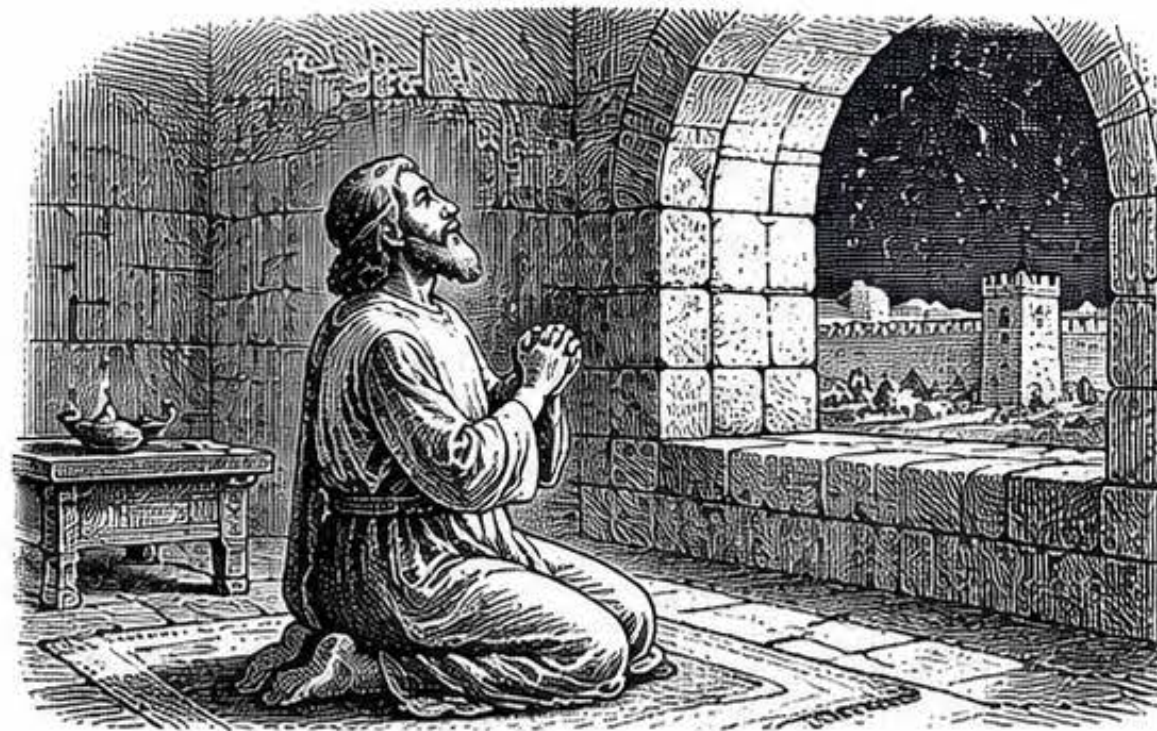
Civil disobedience becomes necessary

WHEN OBEDIENCE TO THE STATE WOULD REQUIRE
DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD.



Hebrew midwives refusing
Pharaoh's command to kill
Hebrew infants.

EXODUS 1:15-21



Daniel continuing to pray
despite the king's decree.

DANIEL 6

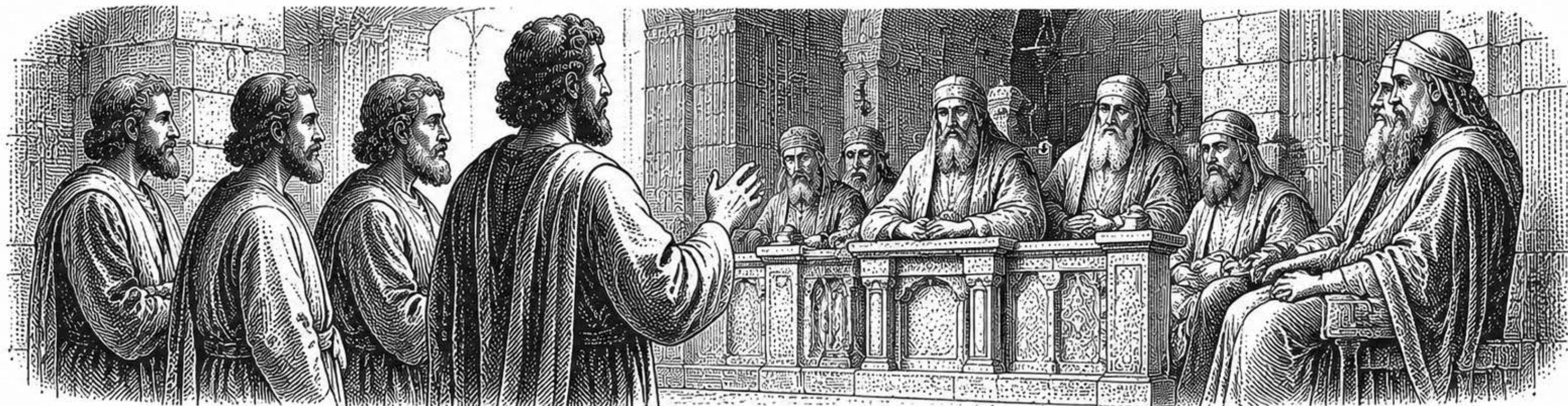


Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego
refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's
image.

DANIEL 3

Civil disobedience becomes necessary

WHEN OBEDIENCE TO THE STATE WOULD REQUIRE
DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD.



“We must obey God rather than men.”

ACTS 5:29

Resistance should be orderly and principled.



Lawful
political action



Public
witness



Legal
appeals



Peaceful civil
disobedience



Accepting the legal
consequences
if necessary.



“

THE BIBLE DOES NOT EVER SAY THAT IT IS WRONG TO CHANGE AN EXISTING GOVERNMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, CHRISTIANS WHO LIVE IN A REPUBLIC REGULARLY VOTE TO ELECT LEADERS, AND SOMETIMES THEY VOTE TO ELECT DIFFERENT LEADERS FROM THOSE CURRENTLY IN OFFICE. THEY ARE TRYING TO CHANGE THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH AN ELECTION. COULD IT EVER BE RIGHT TO SEEK TO CHANGE THE GOVERNMENT BY OTHER MEANS, SUCH AS DECLARING ONE'S INDEPENDENCE, AND THEN DEFENDING THAT INDEPENDENT STATUS AGAINST ATTACK?

WAYNE GRUDEM



GOVERNMENTS SHOULD
PROTECT HUMAN LIBERTY.

11 HE SAID, “THESE WILL BE THE WAYS OF THE KING WHO WILL REIGN OVER YOU: HE WILL TAKE YOUR SONS AND APPOINT THEM TO HIS CHARIOTS AND TO BE HIS HORSEMEN AND TO RUN BEFORE HIS CHARIOTS. 12 AND HE WILL APPOINT FOR HIMSELF COMMANDERS OF THOUSANDS AND COMMANDERS OF FIFTIES, AND SOME TO PLOW HIS GROUND AND TO REAP HIS HARVEST, AND TO MAKE HIS IMPLEMENTS OF WAR AND THE EQUIPMENT OF HIS CHARIOTS. 13 HE WILL TAKE YOUR DAUGHTERS TO BE PERFUMERS AND COOKS AND BAKERS.

1 SAMUEL 8:11-13

14 HE WILL TAKE THE BEST OF YOUR FIELDS AND VINEYARDS AND OLIVE ORCHARDS AND GIVE THEM TO HIS SERVANTS. 15 HE WILL TAKE THE TENTH OF YOUR GRAIN AND OF YOUR VINEYARDS AND GIVE IT TO HIS OFFICERS AND TO HIS SERVANTS. 16 HE WILL TAKE YOUR MALE SERVANTS AND FEMALE SERVANTS AND THE BEST OF YOUR YOUNG MEN AND YOUR DONKEYS, AND PUT THEM TO HIS WORK. 17 HE WILL TAKE THE TENTH OF YOUR FLOCKS, AND YOU SHALL BE HIS SLAVES. 18 AND IN THAT DAY YOU WILL CRY OUT BECAUSE OF YOUR KING, WHOM YOU HAVE CHOSEN FOR YOURSELVES, BUT THE LORD WILL NOT ANSWER YOU IN THAT DAY.”

1 SAMUEL 8:14-18

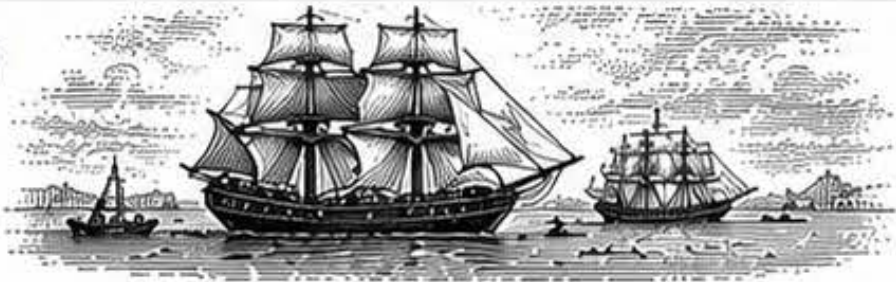
The history of the present **KING of GREAT BRITAIN** is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an *absolute* **TYRANNY** over these States.

TO PROVE THIS, LET **FACTS** BE SUBMITTED TO A CANDID WORLD.

1. For **QUARTERING**
large bodies of
armed troops
among us:



2. For **CUTTING OFF**
our Trade with
all parts of
the world:



3. For **IMPOSING TAXES**
on us without
our Consent:



4. For **DEPRIVING US**
in many cases, of
the benefits of
Trial by Jury:

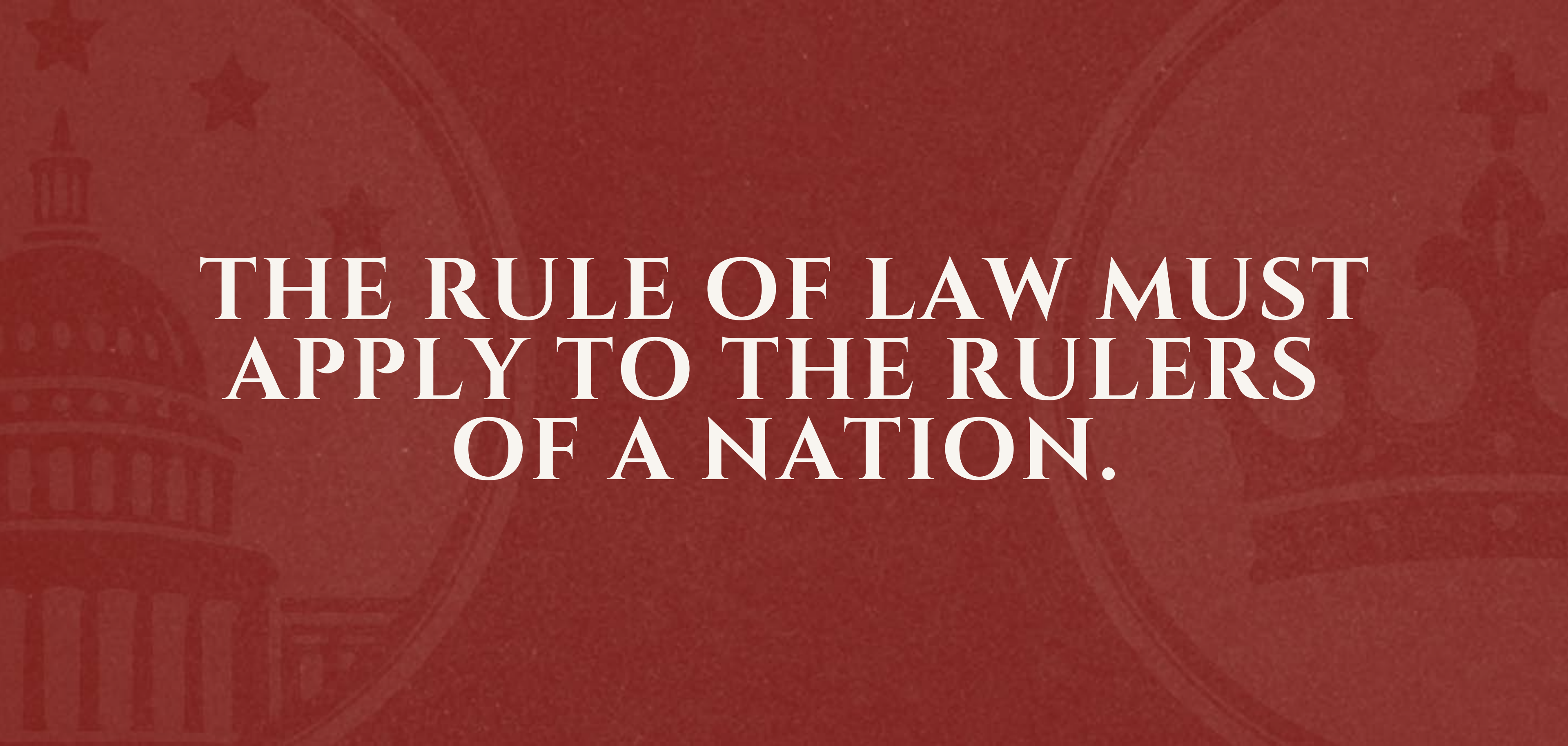


5. For **TRANSPORTING US**
beyond Seas to be tried
for pretended
offences:



6. For **TAKING AWAY** our Charters,
abolishing our most valuable Laws,
and altering fundamentally the
Forms of our Governments:





THE RULE OF LAW MUST
APPLY TO THE RULERS
OF A NATION.

“AND WHEN HE SITS ON THE THRONE OF HIS KINGDOM, HE SHALL WRITE FOR HIMSELF IN A BOOK A COPY OF THIS LAW, APPROVED BY THE LEVITICAL PRIESTS. ¹⁹AND IT SHALL BE WITH HIM, AND HE SHALL READ IN IT ALL THE DAYS OF HIS LIFE, THAT HE MAY LEARN TO FEAR THE LORD HIS GOD BY KEEPING ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LAW AND THESE STATUTES, AND DOING THEM, ²⁰THAT HIS HEART MAY NOT BE LIFTED UP ABOVE HIS BROTHERS, AND THAT HE MAY NOT TURN ASIDE FROM THE COMMANDMENT, EITHER TO THE RIGHT HAND OR TO THE LEFT, SO THAT HE MAY CONTINUE LONG IN HIS KINGDOM, HE AND HIS CHILDREN, IN ISRAEL.”

DEUTERONOMY 17:18-20

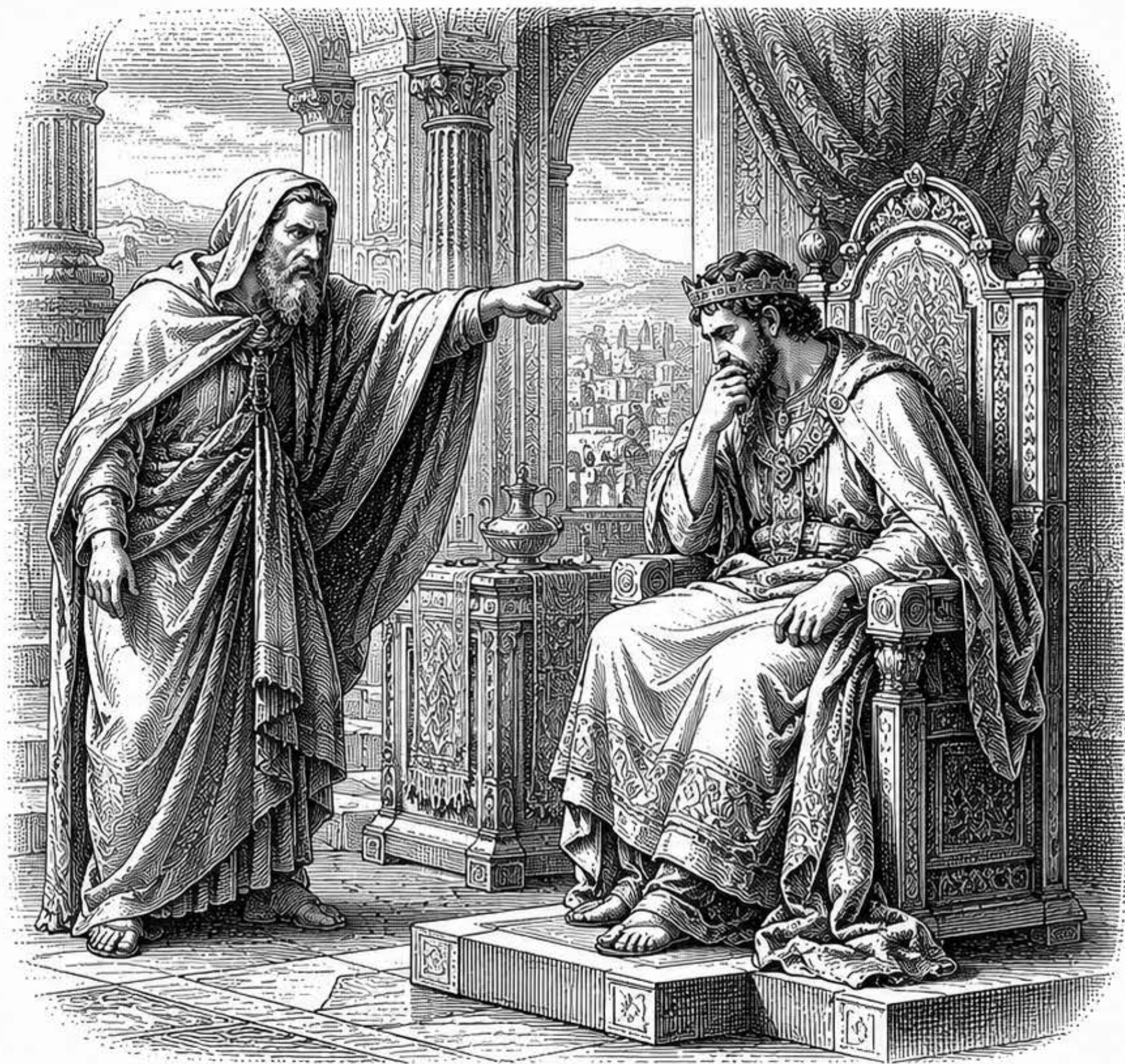
— 2 SAMUEL 12:7 —

YOU ARE THE MAN!

— ♦ —
THUS SAYS THE LORD,
THE GOD OF ISRAEL,

‘I ANOINTED YOU KING
OVER ISRAEL, AND I DELIVERED
YOU OUT OF THE HAND OF SAUL.’

— ♦ —



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LIVE THE TEXT

1. Citizens should obey the government (except in certain circumstances).

- Distinguish inconvenience or differences from persecution.
- Exercise your influence by vote.
- Use your freedom to worship, make disciples, and serve neighbors.

2. Governments should protect human liberty.

- Use your freedoms for good. (Freedom From vs. Freedom To)
- Serve on city commissions, juries, or other civic opportunities.

3. The rule of law must apply to the rulers of a nation.

- Reject political idolatry.
- Jesus Christ is the only King whose rule is perfectly righteous and everlasting.

LIVE THE TEXT

FREEDOM FROM vs. FREEDOM TO DISTINCTION



FREEDOM FROM

EXAMPLES:

- Freedom from government censorship.
- Freedom from unjust imprisonment.
- Freedom from slavery.
- Freedom from excessive taxation or arbitrary rule.
- Freedom from persecution for one's faith.



FREEDOM TO

EXAMPLES:

- Freedom to worship God.
- Freedom to raise your children according to your convictions.
- Freedom to build a business.
- Freedom to speak the truth.
- Freedom to love your neighbor.
- Freedom to pursue virtue and human flourishing.

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