

## **Civil Disobedience**

The General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, meeting in Annual Conference in Rochester, New York, June 24–28, 1968, recognizes and deplors the prevailing spirit of lawlessness in American life. We believe that if the mood continues and grows, it will jeopardize our national life and lead to anarchy. It is our conviction that the strength of any nation demands respect for, and obedience to, law and the properly constituted enforcement officers. If a law is bad, existing procedures for changing it should be followed rather than a resort to civil disobedience in its various forms.

The Bible teaches that the Christian is to be a law-abiding citizen. He recognizes that the institution of government is of God for the stability of society and the welfare of mankind. We are to render to Caesar that which is Caesar's and unto God that which is God's. We are to pray for those in authority over us and respect their office.

The only time a Christian may disobey a law is if that law is clearly contrary to the demands of the Bible in the life of the believer in Christ.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we urge the pastors of our fellowshiping churches to lead the way in obedience to law and maintaining order and to teach their people to do likewise.

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