



An oracle is on the lips of a king; his mouth does not sin in judgment.

It is an abomination to kings to do evil, for the throne is established by righteousness.

(6:10, 12)



Righteous lips are the delight of a king, and he loves him who speaks what is right.

In the light of a king's face there is life, and his favor is like the clouds that bring the spring rain.

(6:13, 15)



A king who sits on the throne of judgment winnows all evil with his eyes.

By justice a king builds up the land, but he who exacts gifts tears it down.

If a king faithfully judges the poor, his throne will be established forever.

(20:8, 29:4, 14)



By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just;

(8:15)



A king's wrath is a messenger of death, and a wise man will appease it.

The terror of a king is like the growling of a lion;

whoever provokes him to anger forfeits his life.

(16:14, 20:2)



Like a roaring lion or a charging bear is a wicked ruler over a poor people.

When the righteous increase, the people rejoice,

but when the wicked rule, the people groan.

(28:15, 29:2)



How much better to get wisdom than gold!

To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

(16:16)



A just balance and scales are the LORD's; all the weights in the bag are his work.

(16:11)



Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.

(Matthew 6:8-10)





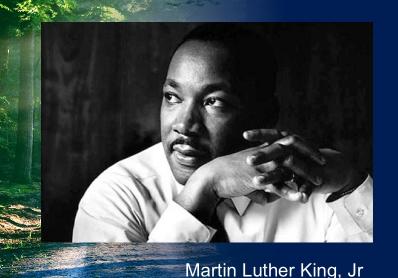
April 15, 1945



. . .not just to bandage the victims under the wheel, but to put a spoke in the wheel itself

Dietrich Bonhoeffer





I submit that an individual who breaks a law that conscience tells him is unjust, and who willingly accepts the penalty of imprisonment in order to arouse the conscience of the community over its injustice, is in reality expressing the highest respect for law.





You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

(Matthew 20: 25-27)



For one will scarcely die for a righteous person though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life

(Romans 5:8-11)