Many today, think that it is their job to expose the sins of leaders and to do everything in their power to remove the sin-laden leader from their position. This concept is completely contrary to what the Bible teaches. This mode of thinking reveals the self-righteous hatred of the one who takes this approach.

"Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins." (Proverbs 10:12)

Love covers all sins! David is a good example of this. When Nathan the prophet addressed David for his sin with Bathsheba, David repented and suffered the consequences at the hand of God. Nathan did not go and gossip about David and tell the news to all of Israel. Nathan did not attempt to remove David from the job God ordained and anointed him to do. Neither did God remove David, **the murderer of Uriah**.

How arrogant we are when we try and seize God's control over the authorities of this world and take it for ourselves. God is plenty big enough to "*take out*" any leader that He wants to remove! He does **NOT** need your assistance.

Worse than being arrogant, we place ourselves in great danger of the wrath of God when we attempt to usurp and undermine God's anointed. When we choose to align ourselves with *"the accuser of the brethren"* (see Rev. 12:10) against *"the Lord's anointed"*, we are in big trouble.

God is **NOT mocked** and He is the shield, protector and lifter of the heads of the righteous. Moses is a good example, see what happened when some of God's chosen people attempted to lift themselves up and usurp authority that God gave to Moses...

"And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up together with Korah, when that company died, what time the fire devoured two hundred and fifty men: and they became a sign." (Numbers 26:10)

"They became a sign"!

They should still be a sign for us today! Heaven help us if we ever put ourselves in the place of God. If we try and "take out" and destroy the people that God put in places of leadership and authority.

Conclusion

It <u>IS</u> every believers job to study the Bible and know what is sin. It <u>IS</u> the responsibility of all Christians to determine what is good and what is evil. It <u>MAY BE</u> your task to rebuke a leader that God has ordained for their sin (assuming God gives you that job. Take note that only Nathan confronted David, not all of Israel.)

<u>It is NEVER</u> your responsibility to try and remove a leader from the position that God ordained them to hold. Leadership positions are **God's right** to give and **God's right** to take away. <u>God's right ONLY!</u>

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By: Robert W. Dallmann

"Saying, Touch not mine anointed..." (Psalm 105:15)

"Behold, this day thine eyes have seen how that the LORD had delivered thee to day into mine hand in the cave: and some bade me kill thee: but mine eye spared thee; and I said, I will not put forth mine hand against my lord; for he is the LORD's anointed." (1 Samuel 24:10)

What does it mean that we should not "touch the Lord's anointed"? This question requires a serious review of the Scriptures, especially since this concept is often applied inappropriately.

While reviewing this notion, we will look into the following ideas.

- Does it mean blind obedience?
- Does it entail not publicly questioning a leader?



• Does it include the concept of not undermining a leader?

Blind Obedience

Some today would have us believe that "not touching the Lord's anointed" includes blind obedience. This is not true. Our obedience to God's anointed should not be blind, but it should be in compliance with God's Word.

The Bible tells us that God is the one Who sets up and removes all authority. God controls <u>ALL</u> that are in authority!

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." (Romans 13:1)

The Word of God further tells us that if we resist these God-ordained authorities, we will receive God's judgment!

"Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation." (Romans 13:2)

So then, does this mandate "blind obedience"? **No!** There are a few scriptural examples of reasons not to obey.

- If you are told to worship idols... **DIS-OBEY!** (Daniel chapter 3, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego)
- If you are told not to pray to God... **DIS-OBEY!** (Daniel chapter 6, the lion's den)

• If you are told not to preach in Jesus' Name... **DISOBEY!** (Acts chapter 4, Peter and John before the religious leaders)

While there may be other examples, there are very few. God tells us that He is in charge of setting up and taking down any and all authorities. He does so in accordance with His plans and purposes.

The bottom line for Christians should be obedience. We should **NOT** disobey without a **CRYS-TAL CLEAR** biblical mandate. We should not "twist", "distort" and take passages "out of context" to justify our vilification of leaders.

Publicly Questioning Leaders

Many times this idea of "not touching the Lord's anointed" is wrongly used to say that we should not ever question a leader. The error of this is very easy to see in the context of the passages that teach the concept.

"Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it. (12) The LORD judge between me and thee, and the LORD avenge me of thee: but mine hand shall not be upon thee." (1 Samuel 24:11-12)

In the very context of David "not touching the Lord's anointed" we see him publicly rebuking King Saul. David demonstrates the integrity of his own heart and blames Saul for doing wrong. Furthermore, David calls upon the Lord to "avenge" him of Saul.

Clearly, "not touching the Lord's anointed" does **NOT** include an edict of not speaking against the leader's sin. Obviously, David shouted to Saul (from a safe distance), and rebuked him in front of his people.

This concept simply means that we are not to do any harm to God-ordained authorities. Calling a leader out for their sin, is one thing. Attempting to destroy the leader is another thing altogether.

Undermining a Leader

We tread on dangerous territory when we attempt to undermine or destroy a Godordained leader. In doing so, we try and usurp power from God. Remember, Romans 13 teaches us that all power, all authority is under God's control. When we endeavor to put someone in authority or take someone out of authority, we grasp after God's rights and authorities.

Think of David... God had already anointed him to be the king (via Samuel). David could have viewed his two opportunities to kill Saul as God's provision to access the throne.

But David did **NOT!** David understood that it was God's job to make a way for his promotion... David waited patiently. (See Psalm 75:6-7)