



# **JIM C'S QUIZ OF THE WEEK**

## **MONDAY – 01/15/2007**

**Martin Luther King Jr.:** “Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” For the sake of this principle and to force change, he actively promoted the use of civil disobedience.

### **HOW DID THE TERM “CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE” ORIGINATE?**

**Dictionary.com:** “The refusal to obey certain laws or governmental demands for the purpose of influencing legislation or government policy, characterized by the employment of such nonviolent techniques as boycotting, picketing, and nonpayment of taxes.”

**Origin (1849):** Motivated in part by his disgust with slavery and the Mexican-American War, Henry David Thoreau published “*Civil Disobedience*,” under the title *Resistance to Civil Government*. This essay was an argument for individual resistance to civil government in moral opposition to an unjust state.

**Clarification:** Thoreau's philosophy of nonviolent resistance influenced the political thoughts and actions of the civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., the pacifist Leo Tolstoy, and the separatist Mahatma Gandhi. Thoreau said, “I ask for, not at once no government, but at once a better government.”

**Moment of Zen:** The ultimate measure of a man is where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.