



Welcome to...

D.I.S.C.I.P.L.E.

Church Government

Part 1 – Bro. Adam Pierce





QUESTIONS

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Verbal communication to large groups:



To Get God's Plan to Govern Church



To Find Where We Fit in the Plan

REASON /LOGIC

- When we understand God's plan for spiritual authority in the church, we more readily receive direction.



Definition

Church (noun)

- a building for public Christian worship.
- public worship of god or a religious service in such a building
- the whole body of Christian believers; Christendom
- any division of this body professing the same creed and acknowledging the same ecclesiastical authority; a Christian denomination
- that part of the whole Christian body, or of a particular denomination, belonging to the same city, country, nation, etc.
- a body of Christians worshipping in a particular building or constituting one congregation
- ecclesiastical organization, power, and affairs, as distinguished from the state

Definition

Government (noun)

- the political direction and control exercised over the actions of the members, citizens, or inhabitants of communities, societies, and states; direction of the affairs of a state, community, etc.; political administration
- the form or system of rule by which a state, community, etc., is governed: monarchical government; episcopal government.

Biblical Church Gov't

1

Patriarchy

Gen 27:29

2

Theocracy

Exo 18:13-16

3

Monarchy

1 Sam 8

God's Plan: Theocratic

- Theocracy
 - Government in which a state is understood as governed by immediate divine guidance especially a state ruled by clergy, or by officials who are regarded as divinely guided.
 - 1 Cor 12:27-31



More Concise: Hierarchical Theocratic

- A hierarchy (Greek: hierarchia, from hierarches, “leader of sacred rites”) is an arrangement of items (objects, names, values, categories, etc.) in which the items are represented as being “above”, “below”, or “at the same level as” one another. Or arranged in successive orders.



Points to Ponder

- Church government is not established by election, it is established by the order instituted in the Bible.
- A person (should not) cannot assume any authority that is not ordained by God.
- In God's government, no person can have power or authority unless God gives it to them.
- All power belongs to God, and there is no power except that which God allows (Rom 13:1).



Points to Ponder

- In God's government/kingdom, no one can receive power or authority (usually for long) unless they are submitted to those who are in authority over them.
- In the local congregation, if an individual is not submitted to their pastor they cannot receive power from God.
- In the local church, all authority flows through the pastor, those who are not in agreement with and in submission to their pastor cannot be used of God. "they have another spirit"

God's Plan Allows Imparting of Authority

- Those who work under the ministry of another are dependent on that person, to delegate power and authority to them.
- In order for God to honor the authority that is delegated or imparted to you, you **MUST** remain submitted to the person you are working with.
- The power and authority comes through the chain of command, if the chain is broken by rebellion, disloyalty, contention, dissension, or the failure to abide by other number of elements of submission, the flow of power and authority will cease.
- The moment a person is not in agreement with and submitted to their pastor, they lose the recognition of God.
- God's only recognition of a minister in the local church is as they are working in harmony with their pastor.

Reason for Church Government

- Avoid Factionalism & Maintain Order
 - Acts 20:29-30
 - Jude 1:4



God's Plan IN SCRIPTURE

- The pastor is the spiritual head and leader of the local congregation.
- If you ever feel that you have spiritual authority above or equal to your pastor, you are deceived!
- Everyone needs a pastor or someone in authority over them.
- Having a spiritual authority over you provides protection for your soul. (See the parable in Matt 21 and Luke 13 - the only difference is that in Luke, the tree had a dresser or pastor to buffer judgement)



THEOCRACY

- “Theo-“ simply means God
- “-cracy” means strength, might, power, to rule over.
- A Theocracy is a system of government by direct guidance from God.
- Ideally, and biblically, the church is to be governed by a Pastor who is directed and personally governed by God.
 - 1 Cor 11:1
- It is wise for a pastor to have men over him or to have elders in his life to counsel with and be accountable to.

Structure of Theocracy

1

Jesus Christ

- Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and earth.
- Eph 1:19-23

2

Pastor

- The under-shepherd, who must give account to God for the members under him as overseer.
 - Acts 20:28
 - Jer 3:15

Structure of Theocracy

3

**Officers/
Ministers**

- Appointed by Pastor to help with his burden, responsible to him and under his authority.
 - They don't operate on their own authority.
 - They must operate within bounds of their responsibility

4

**Laity/
Congregation**

- Accountable to Pastor and his appointed leaders as they function in their appointed roles.

Five-Fold Ministry

1 Cor 12:28

Apostles

Prophets

Teachers

Helps

Pastor

Evangelist

Fellow Laborer

Miracles, Gifts,
Tongues,
Governments

HOME WORK

- ❑ Research & Define what type of church government ILC is, as viewed by secular Christianity, in a short essay.



Syllabus

Special Sessions

Handouts

Recordings

Quizzes

Exam 10-7-15

Homework 9-23-15



D.I.S.C.I.P.L.E.

DISCIPLE 10-7-15 Personal Stewardship Pt 2 Quiz

* Required

Student Name *

EXAM

An orange ribbon graphic with a central rectangular box containing the text "NEXT SESSION". The ribbon has a slight 3D effect with a darker orange shadow on the bottom edge.

NEXT SESSION

**Lesson 24,
Relationships, Part 3
Sis. Beth Baus
Wed 3.9.16 @ 6:00pm**