

church. Here they were where they just would do well and those churches just went ahead. And in our Presbyterian Church if you found the man wasn't doing well, or he wasn't what you wanted, or he was getting old and getting tired or something, you didn't have - unless you were going to bring charges against him through something wicked about him - and there wasn't anything wicked - you had just no way of easily making a change. And who came in was due to the desire, the thought of the people as a whole which so often are based on one ~~XXX~~ sermon they heard a fellow say, on how they like his voice, and so on. And there is tremendous danger in the Methodist set-up. You get a situation like you have today where the bishops are, most of them modernist-minded and organization-minded rather than trying to serve the Lord. You have a situation where the denomination is just turned right over

(8.75) very, very rapidly and there's very great danger in the set-up. But at that time I was tremendously impressed with the great advantage that also was in the set-up, that if you have ideal men in these positions where they can exert authority like that, you have men who really are endeavoring to serve the Lord, you have a situation where they can get the man that's suited for a particular type of work into the work he's suited to and the thing can move ahead. And when he is no longer the best man for it, you can move him out with a minimum of upset. And we do find that Paul in establishing these new churches, Paul not only exerted authority himself but he sent others to exert the authority. Whether we should have authority exerted over an area, or whether the authority should entirely inhere in the individual's particular local church it seems to me is a matter which the Christian has a duty to think out for himself in relation to the situation - in a particular situation which may vary from country to country and from area to area but be conformed originally not in the church or in the district or in the country but in the individual

(10.) And the individual has

the obligation to decide what is best for their situation. I don't find in the Scripture a command - they must do it this way or that way. And we do have definitely this much example - and it's a good thing - of that situation in which authority was exercised in this way.