

ture with this meaning. They indicate the chief officers of the church. Now Number 2 - Though the rule is in the hands of a group - and I think a special responsibility attaches to teaching elders - though the rule is in the hands of a group, special responsibility attaches to the teaching elders. As we've mentioned before, it is inevitable in anything that is effective and successful, that the administration be in the hands of one man. And it is, in my opinion, to guard against the dangers that come from an autocracy of one man, a man who may have been an excellent man but his mind gets puffed up with the authority he has, or perhaps he gets lazy, falls into some sin or something - to guard against that, the New Testament puts such a stress on the plurality of authority. But there's a plurality of authority but there would seem to be evidence of the special responsibility attached to the teaching element. Now this is not brought out, this particular point, extremely clearly in the New Testament though it is definitely suggested. And then we have other passages which show a trend toward a single administrative head. But I think the stress is not in opposition to that trend, but in guarding that trend so that though there be one man who is the executive authority, he never be the man who has control and he can do what he wants. The authority should be a group working with him, having to some extent an oversight over him. And if this is carried out properly, it can provide a means of getting around many of the difficulties which come up when something changes in the man, or they find something about him they hadn't known before and it is necessary for a change. If there is a responsible <sup>group</sup> ~~with~~ authority, which goes a long <sup>with him</sup> / ~~way~~ ordinarily, perhaps <sup>lets him</sup> / ~~even~~ makes the bulk of the decisions, but participates to such an extent that they are able at any time to take hold if he

(7.25) Well now I have two verses to mention under this particular head: I Timothy 5:17 where he says, "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the Word and doctrine." This seems to make a distinction between the ones that rule and then those especially who labor in the Word and doctrine. Yes? (Student question) It would be a Pastor again is a functional word. It represents the man to feed the flock. (Student question) That may be a group which has had difficulties with a man who was pastor and who began to become an autocrat. And its human nature's tendency, when it sees the evil