

well, you are probably deceiving yourself. There is a wall of separation which comes up in spite of us. We can't help it. But the question is just how important is that wall, and just where should it be, and what is its relationship to us? Well, it is not an end in itself. It is not the be all, and end all of the ~~the~~ Christian ~~life~~ life. It is true that you will find that with anything that is taught in the Scripture, anything except the major things, you will find that the great mass of people tend to neglect, and ~~then~~ then you will find that when people get ahold of a truth, Oh, how easy it is ~~for~~ for them to just dwell on that truth, and think of nothing else. And perhaps exaggerate that truth to where it becomes a most important thing~~s~~ in the Scriptures. Well, it is probably better to exaggerate a truth out of proportion than to ignore it. But the Lord doesn't want it to be either. But He wants us to consider the truth, and see just what their vital importance is.

I remember that John Calvin received a letter from some of his followers in England. And they said to John Calvin, they said, We don't know what to do, they said, The English Church is insisting on having bishops, and these bishops have the authority ~~of~~ over the church. Now, they said, We understand from your excellent Scriptural teaching, that the power should come up from the people, electing their elders, and controlling the church. How can we go into a church that has bishops and control the church from the top down? And even, they said, some of ~~us~~ us have been invited to become bishops, and how ~~can~~ can we take a position like that? Contrary to the Scripture. And John Calvin wrote back, and he said, I have presented to you the system of government which I feel is in line with the Scripture, and which I feel is the best, but he said, For you to lose the chance to influence the religious life of England for the truth, and to present the gospel, and to win~~d~~ ~~many~~ souls to Christ because you are unwilling to become bishops and to work under godly men who are bishops, would be wrong, and he urged them not to make these the lines of separation. Separation is not an end in itself.