

*The way a church is organized is the way it should operate*

March 6

We would be unwise to believe that we could be hired by any company as a new employee and then rebel against their system of rules and regulations and still expect to have a long lasting and profitable career. Rebellion against existing legitimate authority often creates greater problems and serves to isolate us, while polarizing others around their differing ideologies. We would do better to survey a place of intended employment to ensure we could submit and commit to the existing organizational structure before accepting a job with any company.

Churches are no different. There are many churches which have at their basic foundation a belief in Jesus Christ as the only way to heaven, but their systems of church government may vastly differ. Submission to the governing authority of a church is the will of God for every believer who continues in fellowship with that church. This preserves the unity of the faith and the propagation of the gospel. The way a church is organized is the way it has a right to operate.

*Prayer for Today*

Father, help me to be a wise servant in Your house. Grant me a spirit of understanding and kindness within the church You have placed me. I desire to be a blessing and not a problem to my spiritual authorities.

*Scriptures for Today*

Hebrews 13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you. (NKJV)

James 5:9 Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door! (NKJV)