

give all this money and do all these things.

So much for the first question. Now the second question: You suggested that Presbyterian church government is a helpful compromise between Episcopal government with its danger of great centralization of authority, and completely independent local churches because of their tendency to be short lived and not find proper successors. One further question from the point of view of one from the independent tradition: Have such Presbyterian groups of churches, historically and in your experience indeed lasted longer and in a sound healthy state than independent churches. How striking has the difference been between the fruits of the two systems?"

I thought I would say about that that the first thing we ought to see is what does the Bible teach? Now about what can we figure about what works, but what does the Bible teach? We find that in the OT the people of God had a very unified control. There is no question of that. But we also find that while David was the king and while Moses was the leader in earlier times, while there was a unified control and they were supposed to follow God's man, yet we find independent prophets springing up here and there whom God called and used in a wonderful way. So we find both a general unity of the people of God ~~w~~through the OT with a definite unified control in general, and yet we find that God worked in unexpected ways through people whom he called from here and there. So we find two principles: we find the principle of individual initiative. We also find the principle of a general unity at least. When you come into the NT, you find that the church in Antioch sent out Paul and Barnabas. You find that much evidence that in the NT there was not tightly controlled organization. But you do find that Paul went up