

and getting the message of the error of the papal authority to just as many people as he could. ~~xxxx~~

And so when people came to Luther and said let us form a system of ch. govt Luther wasn't much interested. And when people came to Luther and said, let us get together all the German princes that stand for protestantism, and resist the emperor, Luther wasn't interested. Luther said~~x~~ no, the emperor has the power, he ~~xxxx~~ said let us stand for God, present ~~xxxx~~ the truth and leave the issues in the hands of God. And it was only when they persuaded LUther that actually they had the right to rule in their areas, as the emperor over the whole, and the emperor was illegally interferring with their rights, that he said, all right go ahead and order them to resist the emperor. It was to be understood that they were not resisting the lawful power of the emperor, but simply insisting on the lawful power that they had. In other words, he didn't want to get mixed up in political things at all. But he wanted to put his stress simply on the Word of God. But the end of his so doing, the result of it was, that the power in the church fell into the ~~x~~ hands of the civil authorities. And so the Lutheran churches came to be strongly completely, just about, under the dominian of the state. And it was the king or the ~~xxxx~~ duke, or the leaders of the state who said what the church should be like, and what the church should do in his area. And I ~~xxxx~~ think that a big argument can be made ~~tht~~ it is better to have the head bishop of the church rule the church ~~thx~~ than it is to have the duke or the king or some other official rule it. In fact, if Luther had to ~~x~~ choose between the two, my guess is that he would have chosen having the head bishop. Though he would say, let's not have a head ~~bk~~ bishop, or anything like that, ~~x~~ unless you have clear Scriptural evidence that there should be one. Let us find some other way to direct it.

But Luther didn't face that ~~x~~ question, and the result of Luther's efforts was in the end, Luther was defended by the civil courts, it was the civil authoritites who backed him up, and who, at his advice carried out reformation in the church in their areas, and as far as church govt. was ~~xx~~ concerned, the