

Calvin, in his writings, stresses the independence of the church in ch. ~~govt~~ gov't. But in his experience he had to be subject to state control. However, he was able to carry it the other way, too, to ~~a~~ quite an extent, and so to control in the state that ~~that~~ it was pretty hard for a person to remain very long as an effective member of the state of Geneva who was out of sympathy with the church. So that there was no large body of unbelievers controlling the church. But Calvin made a big ~~fight~~ fight, and one or two points ~~on~~ on the matter of church control. And one of those was excommunication. Calvin insisted that the church, the ministers ~~the~~ of the church, the elders of the church, working together, would have the right to determine who ~~should~~ should come to the communion service. And the officials of the state said no, we determine this, and any citizen of Geneva has the right to come to the communion service. And the time came when a young man, who was very reprobate in his character, and who was quite a strong opponent of ~~Calvin's~~ Calvin's, expressed the desire to attend communion. And he expressed it to the civil authorities and they voted that if ~~this~~ this man wished to take communion he should be permitted to do so. And Calvin proceeded to give a sermon on the wrong of taking communion if one was reprobate, and how wrong it would be for the minister to give communion to such a man. And there was a very hot feeling at this time, and there was fear that there might be bloodshed. For some reason the young man didn't show up. Somebody perhaps got to him. But it was a very good thing that he didn't, for.....(12½)

But in some of Calvin's disagreements, there, as you know they were shooting off guns under his window every little while, and disturbing him and doing everything they could to get him upset and things were ~~pretty~~ pretty hot for a time. But of course he won out completely in the end. But as far as ch. gov't. is concerned, this is where he put his fight. That the right to determine who should take communion should rest with the spiritual authorities and not with the civil authorities.

Now in his writings he laid out a ~~new~~ system of gov't. of the church in which the church, as a spiritual organization, should be controlled ~~by~~ by its