

experts select the man, or the congregation select the man, you have the experts as a function ruling upon his suitability, and then the congregation as a ~~function~~ function of selecting among them whose suitability is confirmed by the experts. You see the difference there? There is a different idea there. A different attempt. A different viewpoint. Well, now these are three possibilities/ in this regard. And any one of ~~the~~ the three can go back. It is men who rule systems. And most systems will work. The hierarchical system, the chances are that it might be a bishop who makes all determinations. Now if it is not, he has some men with him, that he has to listen to, over a few years they are men he selects. And it is in the end his determination which matters. If it is the congregational system, it is free from many of the evils of the hierarchical system. But it is subject to the trouble that the congregation is not equipped to select a man theologically. And that they are quite certain, most of them, to be moved by matters of personality and ability and general how they like the man, and these often are not very good criteria.

I knew a man in New York. He was director of practical work in a fine Christian organization up in New York. And he told me that there was a church out in Long Island which wanted a pastor. And they told him, this church was a fundamentalist church in a modernistic denomination. It was in a situation pretty much like a congregational situation, because they had absolutely no regard for group control of their church, and they were sufficiently strong so that the group was letting them go their own way. I don't know whether they have put the ropes ~~around~~ around them since or not. But the situation was practically a congregational system, that is what it amounted to. And this friend of mine told me that he recommended to them about four fellows who were very very fine fellows, who knew the Word of God and who were fair Christians, but they knew the Word of God well, and they were men under whom a congregation would be sure to have grown. And he was convinced that they would make real good pastors for the church. And he recommended four fellows, one after the other, to the people. And then he knew of a fellow who was in