

Class #10 - Six Reasons You Should Be Presbyterian

"As it would not be wise for the Preacher of the Cross to leave the multitude to discover in the Bible the Gospel for themselves, so it is not wise to leave them without assistance in their search for Presbyterianism"

Thomas Witherow, *The Apostolic Church - Which is It?*, 55

Apostolic Principles for the Church

I. The First Principle:

1. Scripture
 - a. Ephesians 1:20-23
 - b. Ephesians 5:23
 - c. Colossians 1:18
2. Principle: ***The soul headship over the Church is ascribed to Christ and Him alone***
 - The Church is both an organism and organization

II. The Second Principle:

1. Scripture
 - a. Acts 1:13-26
 - b. Acts 14:23 - Appoint: to choose or elect by the raising of hands - ie, by popular vote
 - c. Acts 6:1-6
2. Principle: ***The office bearers were chosen by the people (elders/deacons)***

III. The Third Principle:

1. Scripture
 - a. Titus 1:5-7
 - b. Compare also Acts 20:17-28 and Phil 1:1
 - c. 2 John 1, 1 Pet 5
2. The Principle: ***Bishop and elder are two appellations which appear to have distinguished the same office, the same order of persons***

IV. The Fourth Principle:

1. Scripture
 - Acts 14:23, Acts 20:17
 - a. Philippians 1:1
2. Principle: ***There was in each congregation a plurality of elders***

V. The Fifth Principle:

Defⁿ - Ordination: The solemn designation of a person to ecclesiastical office with the laying on of hands.

1. Scripture
 - 1 Timothy 4:14, Acts 6:6, Acts 13:3
2. Principle: ***Ordination was an act of the presbytery***

VI. The Sixth Principle:

1. Scripture
 - a. Altercation: Acts 15:1
 - b. Accountability and Appeal: Acts 15:2-3a
 - c. Acceptance: Acts 15:4
 - d. Assembly: Acts 15:6, 12-18
 - e. Advisement: Acts 15:19-21
 - f. Antioch Delegation: Acts 15:22
 - g. Acceptance from the Church: Acts 15:31
2. Principle: ***The privilege of appeal to the assembly of elders, and the right of government exercised by them in their corporate character***