

... and behold, a voice out of the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!"

**Matthew 17:5**

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

**Matthew 28:18**

## The Church Should Be A Monarchy

B. Only Men Who Had Authority To Reveal Laws Were Inspired By God! (John 14:25-26; 15:26-27)

1) "all things" 14:26

2) "you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning." 15:27

## The Church Should Be Autonomous

A. **Defined:** Existing or acting separately from other things or people.

Having the power or right to govern itself.

B. This Is A Clear Biblical Principle (Acts 14:23, 20:28)

The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: <sup>2</sup> Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; <sup>3</sup> nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;

**1 Peter 5:1-3**

NKJV

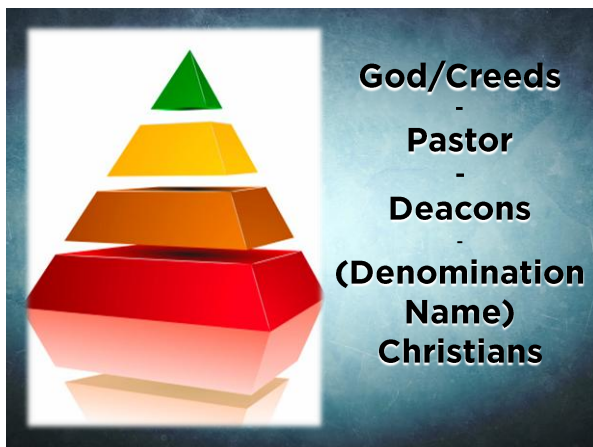
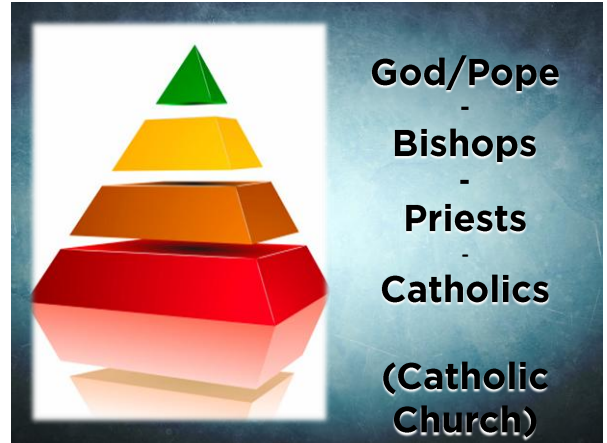
## The Scriptural Organization Is ...

### A. Christ Is The Only Head (Eph. 1:22-23)

“22 ...and gave Him as head over all things to the church,”

### B. Each Local Church Consists Of:

- 1) Elders (Bishops, Pastor, Steward)
- 2) Deacons
- 3) Christians (Saints, Disciples, Royal Priesthood)



All terms refer to same single office				
	Elder or Presbyter (Presbureros)	Overseer or bishop (Episcopos)	Shepherd or pastor (Poimen)	Steward (Oikonomo)
Acts 20:17,28	✓	✓	✓	
Tit 1:5,7	✓	✓		✓
1 Pe 5:1,2	✓		✓	

C. Elders Are Always Seen As A Plurality  
(also Acts 14:23)

Elders Are Always Seen As Over Those  
Among Them - "among the flock" (Acts 20:28)

The Word "Pastor" Can Only Be Found in  
Ephesians 4:11 - Is It The Minister???

## The Scriptural Organization Is ...

D. Can Anyone Become An Elder? (Titus  
1:5-9; 1 Tim. 3:1-7) **NO!**

E. Can Anyone Become A Deacon? (1  
Timothy 3:8-13) **NO!**

F. Can Anyone Become A Member Of  
Christ's Church? (John 14:15; Acts 2:38)

If you love Me, you will keep My  
commandments.

John 14:15

Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each  
of you be baptized in the name of  
Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of  
your sins; and you will receive the gift  
of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38

SCRIPTURAL  
IN  
ORGANIZATION