

SERMON NOTES

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Nansemond River Baptist Church
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“ORDER IN THE CHURCH”

*God is not the author of confusion but of peace . . .
Let all things be done decently and in order. (1 Corinthians 14:33, 40)*

“God’s Placement of Church Leaders: *Who will Rule!*”

Last week, we saw how God has established a plan for Church Government. He calls men who He has gifted and then places them in specific areas where leadership is needed. He began with one man, Adam, and gave him the responsibility for ruling over the creation; a tremendous task! After Adam sinned, God still expected him to be the leader in his home. God also established governments and placed people in authority so that all things could be done “in order” and His people could live a quiet and peaceable life, bringing glory to Him.

But, what about the Church? Does God single out specific individuals to rule or lead there? If He does, how do you determine who has received a legitimate call? How much trust do you place in them, and who makes the final decision on who will lead?

This morning, we move from the *plan* to the *placement* of leaders. If God does, indeed, have a pattern for authority in the Church, He reveals it to us in His Word. By following it, His work in the Church can be done productively, peaceably, and gloriously. Obeying God fills the church with the very atmosphere of heaven, and the world sees Him in us because they see Him working through us.

- I. God deals with us according to our _____.
(Luke 12:29-30; Ephesians 4:11-13; Philippians 4:19; Isaiah 65:24)

- II. God established offices in the church to provide for our _____ needs. (Ephesians 4:11-13)

1. The office of _____.
2. The office of _____.

- III. We all share the same need for _____.
_____. (Philippians 3:12)

1. Leaders don't just _____, they _____!
(1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17)
2. When we follow the example of _____
leaders, we _____ into people of faith.
(Hebrews 13:7; Titus 1:9a)

(1) Faithful at _____. (Titus 1:6-7a)

(2) Faithful in _____. (Titus 1:7-8)

(3) Faithful in _____. (Titus 1:9b; 1 Timothy 3:7)