

The Formation and Function of the Church

Lesson 5

- I. Introduction
 - A. God's view of leadership is different than man's way
 - B. Christ is the sole Head of the Church
- II. Church Government
 - A. Instruction not construction
 - 1. Not our invention
 - 2. Christ already determined the arrangement
 - B. A theocracy not a democracy
 - 1. Instructions come from Him not from us
 - 2. 3 elements of Christ instructed church government
 - a. Kingdom authority rules the church
 - 1). Christ's rule is absolute
 - 2). The church is the new theocracy not the state
 - 3). Christ's power is spiritual not political
 - 4). Christ's power is ministerial not imperial
 - 5). Christ's power is declarative not legislative
 - 6). Our response is:
 - b. Submission maintains the church
 - c. Qualified representatives lead the church
 - 1) Leaders are guardians of the flock – Acts 20:28
 - 2) Leaders are qualified by the Holy Spirit and recognized by the flock