

looked at A, its existence proven, we didn't spend much time on that, but we have abundant N.T. evidence. Anyone who holds that the church of Christ is strictly an invisible thing, and it is purely a matter of our relation to Him and we have no responsibility for a physical literal ~~relationship~~ relationship to one another, will have to explain away a very large portion of the N.T., even ~~though~~ though there be no one particular sentence, perhaps, which could be quoted as alone being sufficient to deny his view. The N.T. urges, demands that we forsake not the assembling of ourselves together, ~~calls~~ calls upon us to perform certain things which can only be performed by groups of Christians cooperating together, shows us the early Christians meeting together in groups, with certain authority over the groups. And certain definite ~~principles~~ principles of procedure, uses the word church in a singular sense, which could not refer to anything possibly except the visible gathering together of ~~people~~ people in a certain area or in a certain community.

And so the existence of the visible churches, as well as the visible church is clearly proven in the ~~Scripture~~ Scripture. But B, we noticed under 3 here, that the headship of Christ, which is so important in the church universal, is equally important in the visible church. There is no authorization, either in the Scripture or in the statements of members or leaders of any Christian group of which I am familiar for the idea that the vote of the majority necessarily determines what is right in a church. Whatever be the practice, the wording used, in every body I know of, makes it clear that Christ is considered to be the autocratic head ~~of~~ of the church. And that the only reason that individuals are considered to have any vote is in order to ~~find~~ find out what they think would be the will of Christ in a particular procedure. ~~They~~ They are thought of as acting in His place. And their authority as being purely a matter of determining what He would desire by seeing what they think He would desire, not what they want, but what they think He would want. And if you go to churches of the opposite type, of those which do not have votes of the members to any great extent, but which have decisions made by an ~~individual~~ individual, who(skips...⁵) you will find that the terminology used is in