

Sunday Morning, June 25, 2017
The Responsibilities *To* Church Leaders
Hebrews 13:7, 17

- I. We Are to Observe Them Heb. 13:7

- II. We Are to Imitate Them Heb. 13:7
 - A. What to Imitate: Their Faith

 - B. Why to Imitate: Their Life

- III. We Are to Obey Them Heb. 13:17
 - A. Church Leadership Is Subordinate (They Can Only Apply Scripture)

 - B. Church Leadership Is Spiritual Not Temporal (They Apply Scripture *to Spiritual Issues*)

 - C. Church Leadership Is Ministerial Not Imperial (Without a Dictatorial Spirit)

 - D. Church Leadership Is Declarative Not Legislative (No Additional Rules for the Christian Life)

 - E. Church Leadership Is Authoritative Not Just Advice Giving— We to Obey
Matt. 23:1-3; Ac. 16:4; 2 Cor. 13:10; 1 Thess. 5:12; OPC FOG, III:5; WCF XXXI:2

- IV. We Are to Submit to Them Heb. 13:17; 1 Thess. 5:13

- V. We Are to Pray for Them Heb. 13:18; Rom. 15:30
 - A. Because the Elders Carry a Great Weight 2 Cor. 1:10

 - B. Because No Man Is Sufficient in Himself

 - C. Because Every Elder Is a Sinner

Quotes:

“The lives or memoirs of persons of piety, well written, have been of infinite and unspeakable advantage to the disciples and professors of Christianity, and have given us admirable instances and rules how to resist every temptation of a soothing or a frowning world, how to practice important and difficult duties, how to love god above all, and to love our neighbors as ourselves, to live by the faith of the son of god, and to die in the same faith, in sure and certain hope of a resurrection to eternal life.”
(Issac Watts)

"No man should be alone when he opposes Satan. The church and the ministry of the Word were instituted for this purpose, that hands may be joined together and one may help another. If the prayer of one doesn't help the prayer of another will."
(Martin Luther)

Because she is Christ's Church— “No man may with impunity spurn her authority, or reject her admonitions, or resist her counsels, or make sport of her censures, far less revolt from her, and violate her unity.”
(John Calvin)

“Church government is a valid and authentic jurisdiction to which Christians are commanded to submit themselves. Therefore the decisions of church officers when properly rendered and if in accord with the Word of God, are to ‘be received with reverence and submission; not only for their agreement with the Word, but also for the power whereby they are made, as being an ordinance of God appointed thereunto in his Word.’” (WCF xxxi:2)
(OPC Form of Government, iii:5)