

Biblical Leadership

Senior Pastor
Assistant Pastor
Music Minister
Reverend
First Lady
Usher
Father
Cardinal
Full-Time
Staff
__ Ministry Leader







Hebrews 13:17 (NIV1984): “Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them...”

- 1st Occurrence of “Obey”: Does not use the Gk. υπακουο which means “to listen, to harken to a command” but uses Gk. πειθο which means “to be persuaded, to trust”
- It is not just leaders we are to submit to but also to each other (Ephesians 5:21)
- The word “Authority” was added; No Greek word for “authority” in the original Greek
- 2nd Occurrence of “Obey”: Added; No Greek word for “obey” in the original Greek

Hebrews 13:17 New International Version (NIV)

¹⁷ Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

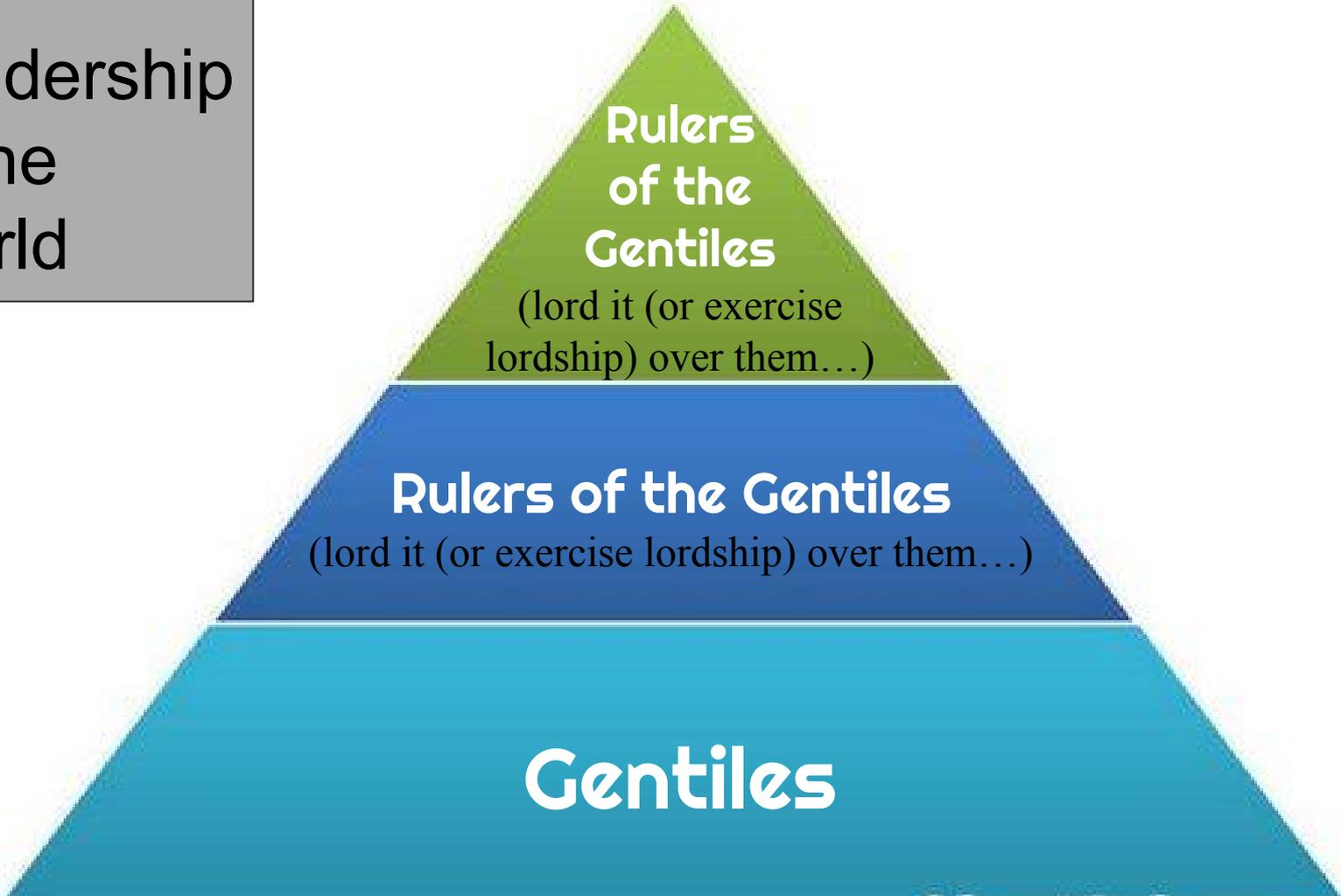
Hebrews 13:17 English Standard Version (ESV)

¹⁷ Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Mark 9:33-35

Matthew 20:20-28

Leadership in the World



**Servant - Slave
Great
1st!!**

Rulers of the Gentiles
(lord it (or exercise lordship) over them...)

Rulers of the Gentiles
(lord it (or exercise
lordship)
over them...)

**Leadership
with the Jesus
Filter!**

James Coffman Commentary: *“True greatness in Christ's kingdom lies not in office but in service. Jesus very wisely identified such pyramided governments as "Gentile," thus indicating their rejection in his kingdom of love and service, rather than of strutting power. That such Gentile forms of power exist in so-called Christian religions today does not nor cannot make it right.”*

Matthew 23:8-12 NIV

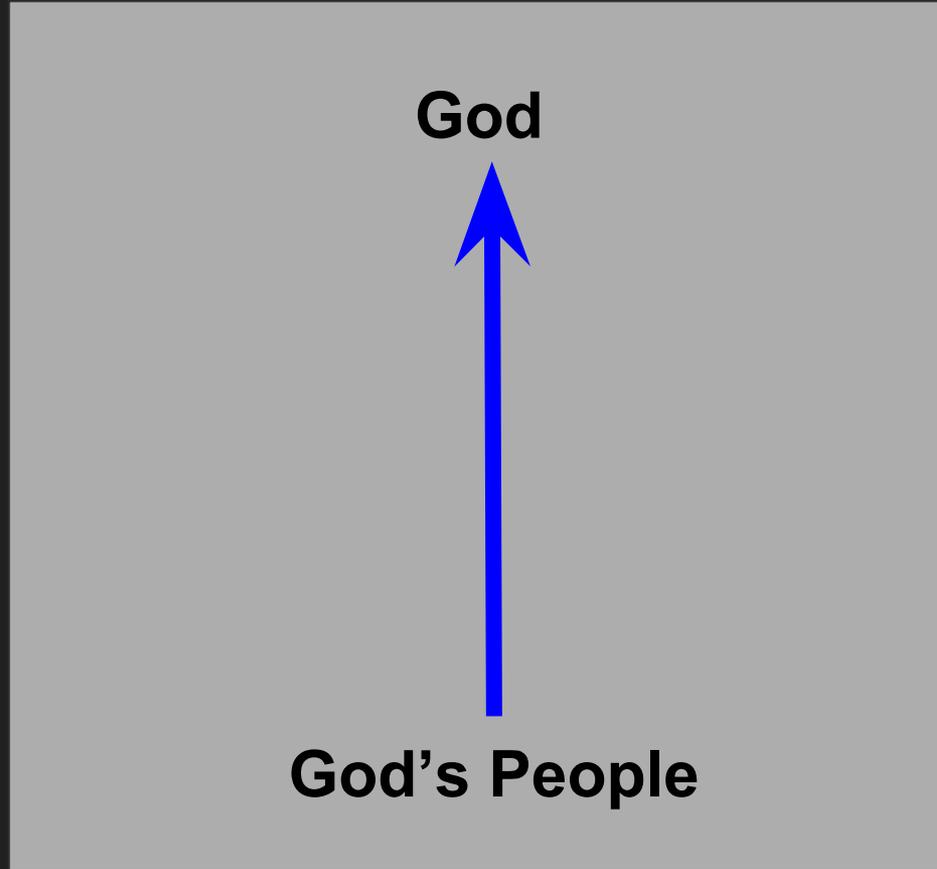
⁸ “But you are not to be called ‘Rabbi,’ for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. ⁹ And do not call anyone on earth ‘father,’ for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. ¹⁰ Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah. ¹¹ The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹² For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

Matthew 23:8-12(NASB)

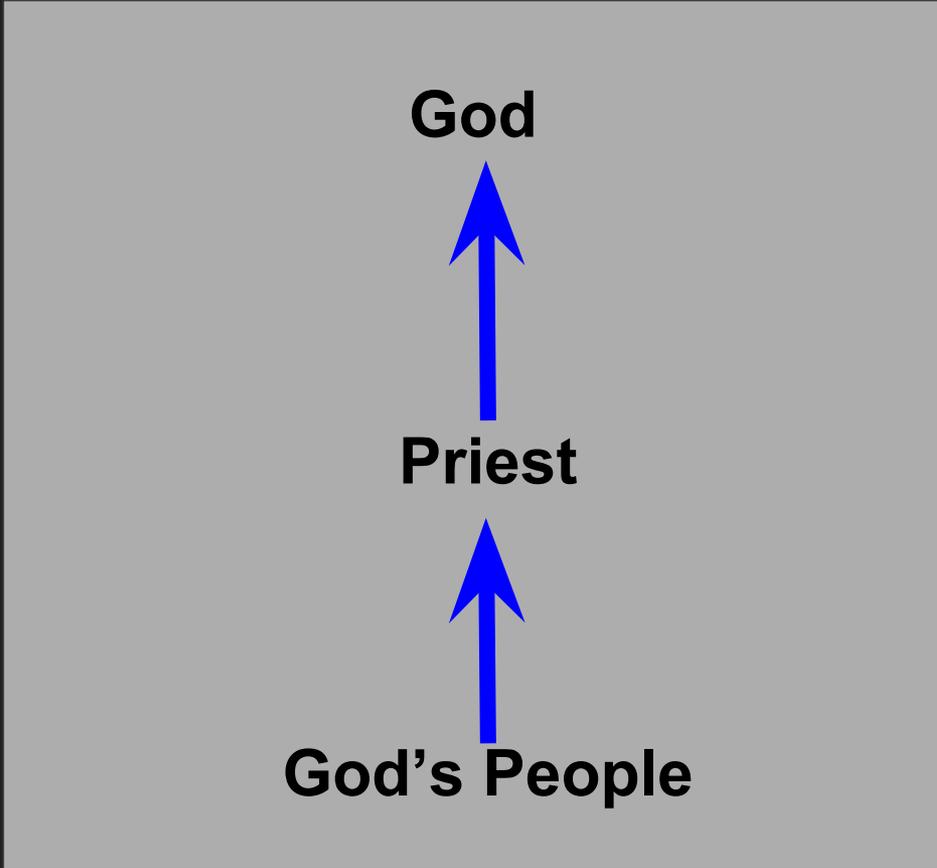
⁸ But do not be called Rabbi; for One is your Teacher, and you are all brothers. ⁹ Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. ¹⁰ **Do not be called leaders; for One is your Leader, that is, Christ.** ¹¹ But the greatest among you shall be your servant. ¹² Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.

James Coffman Commentary: "Positively no Father, Rabbi, Reverend, Doctor, or other religious title-holder has any authority at all to legislate, absolve, bind, loose, require, or demand, in any religious sense, anything whatsoever, upon anyone whomsoever! The principal heresy of the ages has been and continues to be the human failing in this very area. Humanity confers upon itself, in the person of those whom it denominates "fathers," "rabbis," etc., prerogatives which pertain and can only pertain to God... Let any person who uses such a title in a religious sense beware of the consequences."

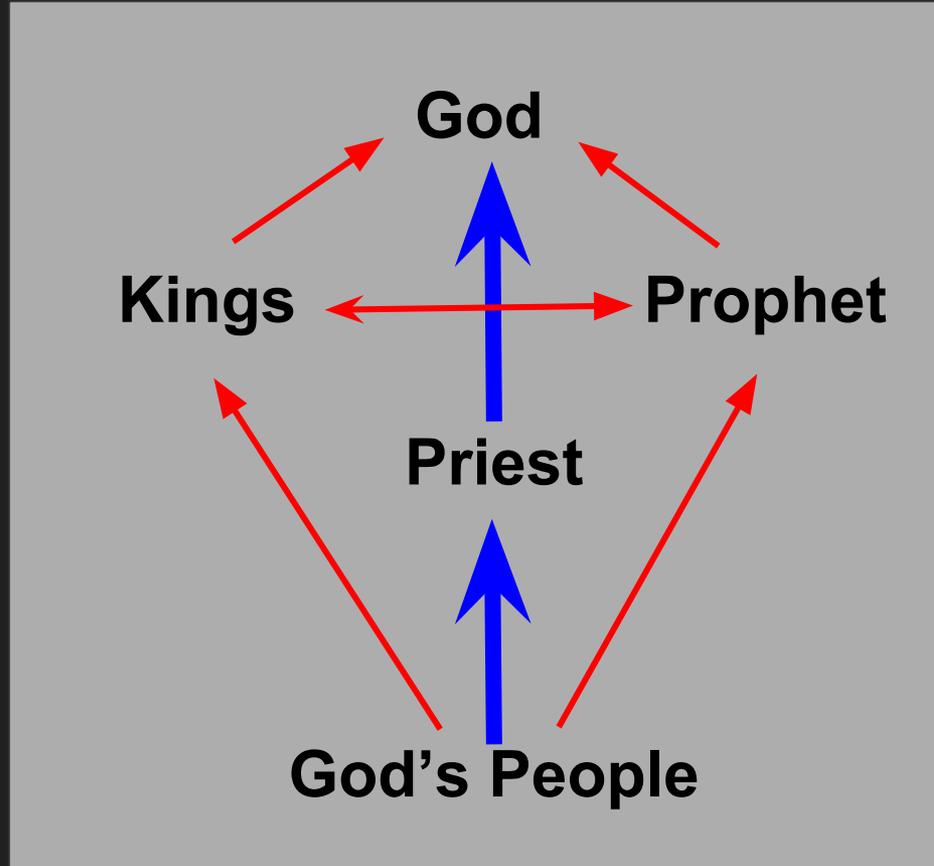
1. God created (no divide)



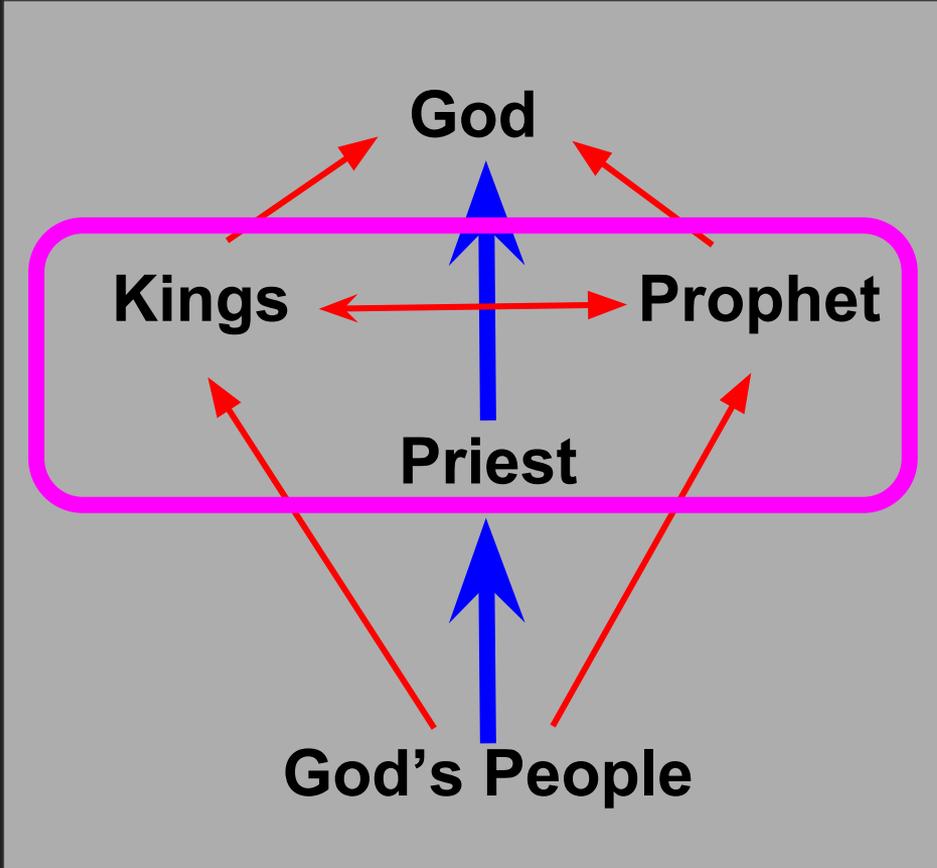
2. Sin created (divide)



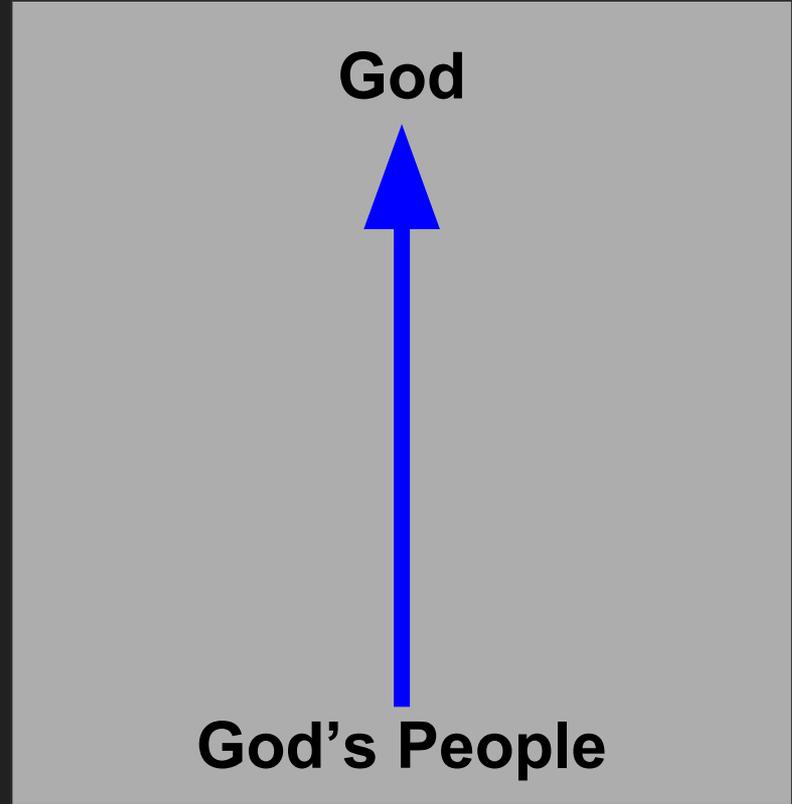
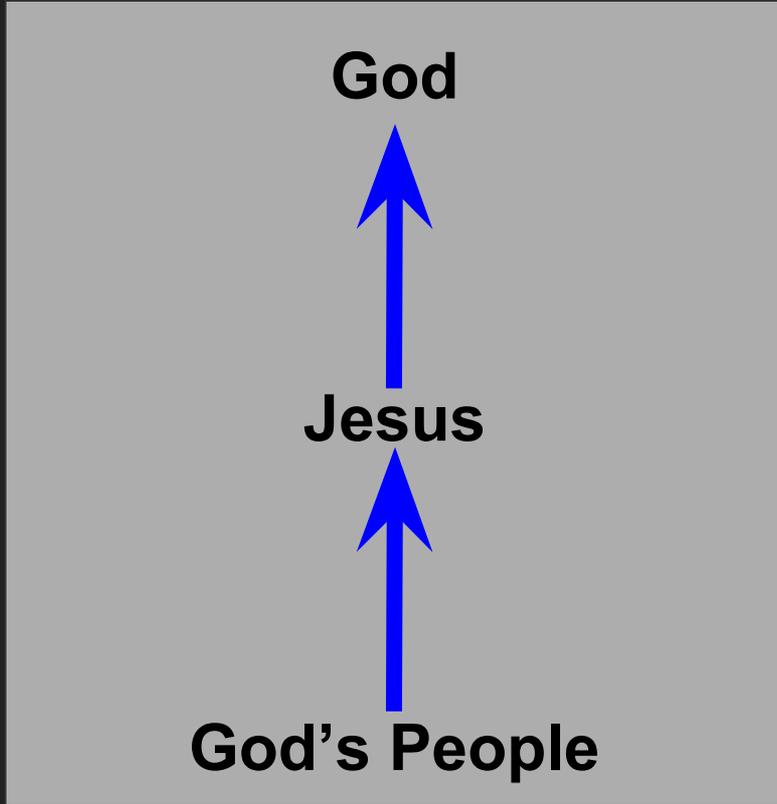
3. Israel asked for more divide.



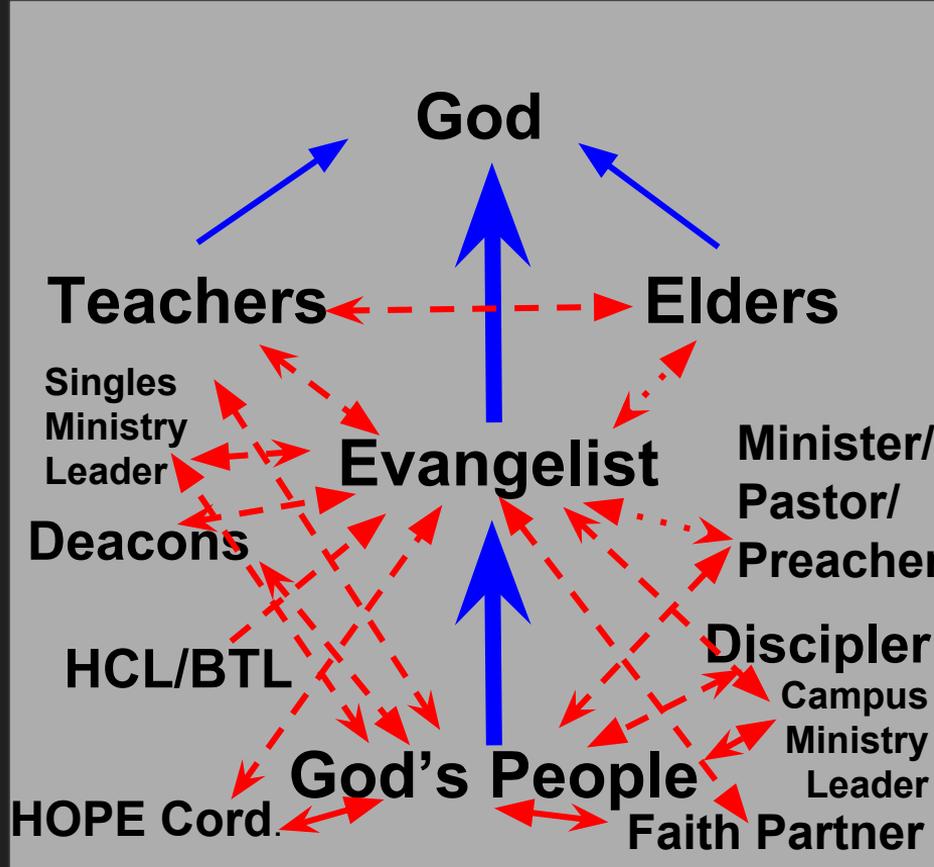
4. Jesus fixed things (no divide again!)



4. Jesus fixed things (no divide again!)



5. Today



Ephesians 4:7-13

⁷ But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

⁸ This is why it says:

“When he ascended on high,
he took many captives
and gave gifts to his people.”

⁹ (What does “he ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? ¹⁰ He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) ¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Re-Defining the Functional Roles of Ephesians 4:11

1. **Apostles:** Individuals who are sent with a specific mission particularly of spreading the gospel to new areas (i.e., missionaries)
2. **Prophets:** Individuals who are able to edify (build up) the church by helping the church understand Scriptures (revelation) and the Scriptures' connection with everyday living
3. **Evangelists:** Individuals who serve in an organizational role for the church so that the church is able to continue to proclaim the gospel once the missionaries (apostles) depart
4. **Shepherds:** Mature individuals who protect the flock by helping wandering or lost sheep, guard the flock by dealing with heretical teachings and practices, and nurture the flock with love and concern
5. **Teachers:** Individuals who mentor other Christians in a variety of areas (new Christians, newlyweds, new parents, etc.)

The Church, in general, is called to do all of these things:

1. **Apostles:** God has called us all to go out into the world with the mission reconciling people to God (Mt 28:18-20) and serving the poor (Mt 25:41-46)
2. **Prophets:** We are the light of the word revealing God to the world (Matthew 5:13-16) and to each other (1 Corinthians 14:26,29-33)
3. **Evangelists:** All of us are to proclaim the gospel to the lost (Mt 28:18-20) and to participate in the body in a loving (1 Cor 13), orderly manner and encourage other to do the same (1 Cor 14:40)
4. **Shepherds:** We are all called to guard and feed one another (1 Cor 4:15)
5. **Teachers:** We should all teach and mentor one another at some level (Romans 15:14)

Ephesians 4:7-13

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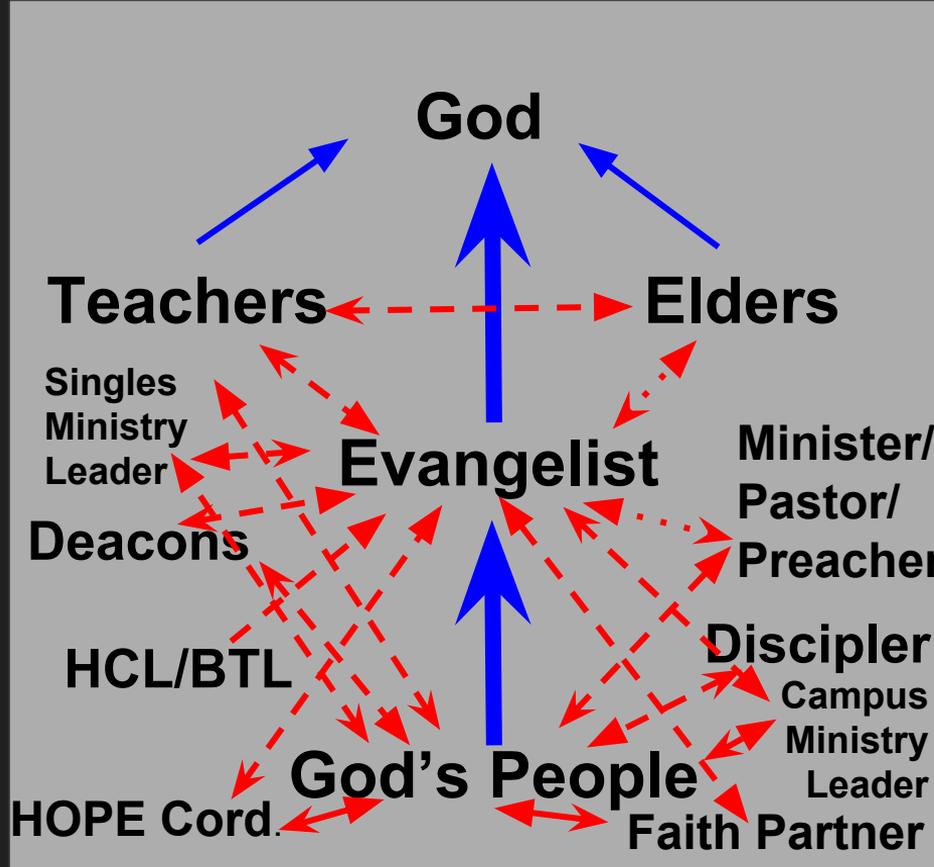
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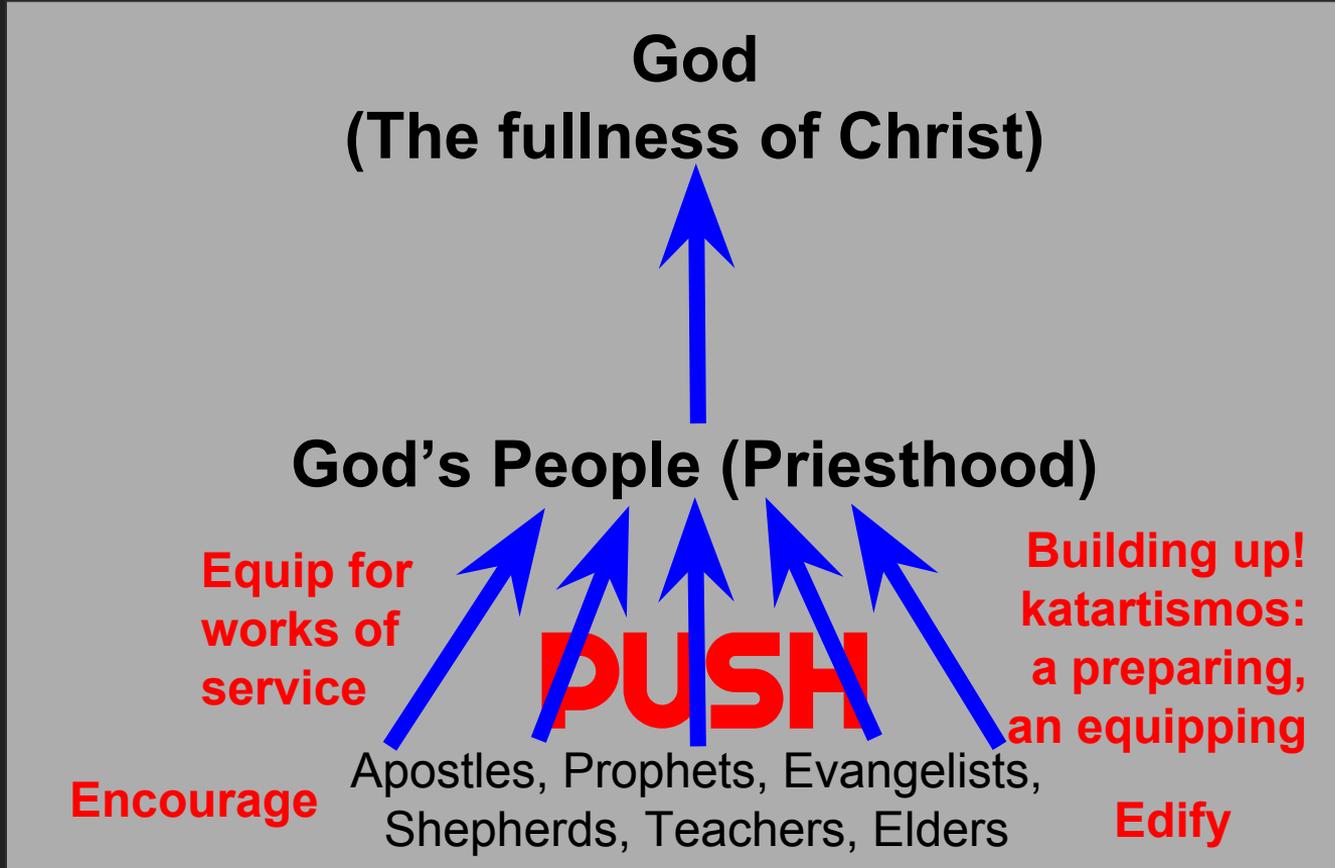
Are you Gifted?

It appears that God has gifted some of us to fulfill these roles and others in a way that stands out but does not stand above the other disciples.

5. Today



6. New Testament Biblical Leadership (no divide but a lot of support):



Ephesians 4:14-16

¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

How do we get our church to be mature?

- **Fire the leader!** (If we just had _____ as our leader, then...)
- **Get a new House Church leader!** (If only _____ was my house church leader, then everything would be great!)
- **Put me in a different House Church!** (Because the grass is always greener over there... right?)
- **I will move to another church!** (Maybe God is calling me - or is that my sinful heart?)

How do we get our church to be mature?

- **Fire the leader!** (If we just had _____ as our leader, _____)
- **Get _____** (If only _____ was my house, _____ everything would be great!)
- **Put me _____** (Because the _____ right?)
- **_____ other church _____** (is _____ or is that my sin?)



How do we get our church to be strong?

- The answer is **ME!** I need to do the work! (Don't sit around wait for someone else to do it!)
 - Encourage, Edify, Equip, Evangelize

Church: It is time to take a hard look at ourselves!

- How has God gifted ME?
- How can I (ME) contribute to the growth of the church?
- What can I (ME) change?
 - Older should be the stronger because if you are growing in your faith, you should have more to give! (and if you don't have more to give - it's because you are not growing in your faith!)

What happens to the church when everyone takes on the role of a servant?

Why is it so important to work on ME (self) to strengthen the church and not look to everyone else to do the work?

Why is it often easier to blame others for something that needs to improve instead of taking a personal responsibility for its change?