

The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

The Church's Foundation

“[You] as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house...” (1 Peter 2:5).

“The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles” (Revelation 21:14).



The Old Testament Foundation: The Prophets

“Beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself”
(Luke 24:27).



Christ the Cornerstone

“I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, chosen, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame” (1 Peter 2:6).

“The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone” (1 Peter 2:7).



False Apostles

And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars” (Revelation 2:2).



God's Gifts to His Church

Ephesians 4:11

“He gave some to be apostles,
some prophets,
some evangelists,
and some pastors and teachers.”



Modern Apostles?

1. He saw Christ.
2. He suffered.



Bishops and Elders Are Identical

Bishop = Episcopas in Greek

Elders = Presbuteros in Greek

Pastors = Shepherds



The Bible Teaches Republican Government

Lex Rex

not

Rex Lex

The Law Is King

not

The King Is Law



The Elders Represent the People

Representative Government Is Republican
Government.

It came from Calvinism.

“the American pulpit gave birth to America”
(Alexis de Tocqueville)



Power Seekers

“The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called ‘benefactors’ (covering). But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is elder among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves (Luke 22:25-26).



How Do We Apply God's Government?

“Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus (Hebrews 3:1).



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Apostolic Government

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