



The Way of Wisdom

Part Three: **Submit**

July 5, 2020

The Conundrum

Suspect everyone, including myself

How then do I come to a decision and move forward?

The Safety of the Multitude of Counselors

The wisdom of Proverbs: **11:14; 15:22; 24:6**

Jesus chooses 12 apostles: **Luke 6:12-16**

The Jerusalem Council and the 7/14 Ecumenical Councils beyond: **Acts 15**

Plurality of elders in local churches: **Acts 14:23; 1 Peter 5:5; James 5:14**

Be Subject to the Elders: 1 Peter 5:5

Subjection = willing to yield autonomy and come under the influence of; trust the guidance of;

Forming a personal “Council of Twelve”

Groups Can Be Wrong

The OT paradigm of the single prophet against the crowd of false prophets: **see 1 Kings 18, 22**

Groups are made up of individuals

Systems theory: every part affects the whole

Identifying trustworthy voices for your “Council of Twelve”

The Principle of Legitimate Authority

Parents (**Prov 1:8**), government (**Rom 13:1-7**), church leaders (**Heb 13:17; 1 Peter 5:5**)

Rooted in the idea of God’s sovereignty over rulers: **Proverbs 21:1**

God uses established authority as a guidance resource

But not always! **Acts 4:18-20**

The Principle of Fruit: Matthew 7:15-20

The characteristics of elders in **1 Peter 5:2-3**

Willingness, agenda-less, non-domineering, example

The Principle of Difference

Our oneness in Christ frees up our differences as gifts: **1 Corinthians 12:7**

Tapping into the gift of different views and experiences: **Galatians 3:28**

Final Thoughts

An important expression of humble submission to God: **1 Peter 5:5,6**

A resource of protection and resistance against the devil: **1 Peter 5:8-9**