

LORD OVER

The Lord delegates His authority to men to fulfill the responsibilities He has assigned them. They are, in essence, representatives of Him and His authority. That's why you oppose God when you oppose authority (Romans 13:2). At the same time, those in positions of authority are to act in a manner that indicates they fear God and walk humbly in the position He has put them, much like David.

2 Samuel 5:12

“And David realized that the LORD had established him as king over Israel, and that He had exalted his kingdom for the sake of His people Israel.”

The Lord is adamant that His authority not be abused by using it to lord over people, but instead, used constructively in accomplishing one's responsibilities and advancing the kingdom of God

Matthew 20:25-26

“But Jesus called them to Himself, and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and {their} great men exercise authority over them.

It is not so among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant,”

The Greek word translated lord over, *katakurieuo*, means to hold in subjection, to bring under one's power, to subdue. As you can plainly see, this heavy handed approach is expressly forbidden by the Lord. It must always be recognized that all authority is delegated and that the one walking in delegated authority is accountable to the one delegating the authority. So, all in charge must eventually answer as to how they functioned in directing others.

Ephesians 6:9

“And, masters, do the same things to them, and give up threatening, knowing that both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.”

Remember, too, the principle from the book of Matthew (7:2) and the book of Luke (6:38) which basically assures we will receive back what we dish out.

Matthew 7:2

“For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.”

Peter was adamant that church elders shepherd, but not lord over the flock.

1 Peter 5:3

“nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.”