

Church at Antioch. How, with your ideas of their ecclesiastical polity, could one Church have thus lorded it over another in remitting the load of Circumcision and in binding them to abstain from certain things.

Indeed every other notice of James makes it evident that he was in authority at Jerusalem. Paul after his missionary tours comes up to Jerusalem and reports to James, (Acts xxi. 18.) Peter after his liberation from prison directs Mary's household to report the fact immediately to James (xii. 17). Paul charges Peter with inconsistency in his acts before and after "certain came from James." (Gal. ii. 12.)

How James was invested with this authority and how he transmitted it to his successors Scripture does not tell us; nor are there revealed any of the minor details of the Apostolic system of Church government. What was the position of Peter among the Twelve? Why was it necessary to preserve the mystic number intact when Judas fell, and not when James suffered martyrdom? How did the two dispensations harmonize at the coming of our Lord, the jurisdictions of which for nearly half a century seem concurrent? How was Paul invested with the care of the Churches, and what were the exact limits of power of the different orders of the ministry? Respecting these and cognate subjects we are told little or nothing. That we have the framework only of a system thus given us, the filling in and finishing being withheld,