

Ephes. ii. 20. Rev. xxi. 14. If any man receive not their testimony, he is rejected by God ; for they sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Matth. xix. 28.

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Titus and Timothy, were assistants of the Apostles : and it is likely that they possessed most of the Apostolical gifts.

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Titus was left in Crete to set in order the things that were wanting, and to ordain Elders in every city, as Paul had directed him. Titus i. 5. Both he and Timothy received injunctions about the qualifications of those to be ordained to the Elder's office. 1 Tim. iii. 1-7. Titus i. 6-9. The one is authorized by the Apostle to rebuke sharply, either Elder's or Preachers, who might err from the faith, Titus i. 13, and the other is to charge them to teach no other doctrine than the doctrine of Christ. 1 Tim. i. 3. They are both enjoined to take cognizance of the Elders as well as of the Churches, and receive directions how they are to proceed in these respects. Titus ii. 2. 1 Tim. v. 19, 20. And in using such authority among the Churches, which in all respects was delegated Apostolic authority, and not to suffer themselves to be despised. Titus ii. 15. If the Apostles had in readiness to revenge all disobedience of their authority, when the obedience of the Churches was fulfilled, (1 Cor. x. 6.) so they, acting under Apostolic authority, must be obeyed. To despise them, was to despise the authority of the Apostles, whose Assistants they were. The Apostles had ordained them to their office by the immediate direction of the Holy Spirit ; and they acted by their authority and directions, wherever the presence of the Apostles were needed, but where it was impossible their presence could be obtained. This was highly necessary, while all things which Jesus commanded his Apostles to teach the Churches to do, were not fully known. These occupied that place to the Churches which the writings of the Apostles that complete the sacred canon now fill up.

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They had such a superintendence of the churches as none could claim but the Apostles, or those persons to whom they committed it. In exercising this superintendence, any one of the Evangelists might ordain Elders in a Church, the same as an Apostle. Titus i. 5. It was their duty to see, *authoritatively*, that the Elders and Preachers were sound in the faith, in all the Churches. 1 Tim. i. 3. Titus i. 13. To whatever Church they came, by the power with which the Apostles invested them, they settled differences, put in order the things which were wanting, and, in a word, exercised such an authority as an Apostle would have done had he been present.

This evidently appears in every injunction given to Timothy and Titus in the epistles addressed to them. Timothy, when