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Description

"Remember your leader"; "Obey your leader": "Salute your leaders" (Heb. 13:7, 17.24). "Know them that take the lead among you in the Lord" (1 Thess. 5:12); "leading men among the brethren" Acts 15:22). (Quotations from the New Translation, J. N. D.).

Some marginal readings give "your guides" instead of "your leaders." A guide knows where he is, and the road he is on, and leads all whom he guides along the way. He is a leader. And rarely was the need of leadership among the saints so great as at present. A leader knows what he stands for, and by moral weight or spiritual gift leads and feeds the flock of God, in humble dependence upon the CHIEF SHEPHARD to whom alone he looks for guidance, and reward "When the Chief Shepherd shall appear" (1 Peter 5:4).

A true leader is not a man of divided loyalty, he knows whose he is and whom he serves, and such leadership in no way clashes with our Lord's rightful place and personal authority. On the contrary it emphasizes both, insisting that "One is your Master, even Christ; and all ye are brethren" (Matt. 23:8). We call no man on earth MASTER in spiritual things, but the Holy Spirit by the Apostle constantly refers to leadership and orders that "he that leads (a leader) is to lead with diligence" (Rom. 12:8).

Such an one will take the risks of leading; and clear leadership will point out plainly

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