

MONUMENTAL LESSONS (1)

I recently watched “Monumental,” a movie about a few early American pilgrims who rejected the “Top-Down” human authority of the Church of England. “Top-Down” authority is centralized authority. The Church of England has one human leader who oversees many individual churches. This idea came not from the Bible but The Catholic Church, whose leader (“Pope”) is over many individual churches.

Only Jesus is head of *all* His churches (1 Pet. 5:1-4; Rom. 16:16). He gave *limited* leadership to qualified individuals **IN** each of His churches but gave *no* ongoing leadership to men **OVER** more than one of His churches (read Acts 14:23; 20:17, 28; 1 Timothy 3). When “in God’s name” one man has authority over many churches, this is man-made, “Top-Down” authority, lacking Jesus’ approval (Mt. 7:23; 28:18).

America exists because some pilgrims abandoned “Top-Down” authority. Sadly, it followed them to America and exists in many churches whose members will see this movie! Will they, like these pilgrims, escape this sinful practice?
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