

of Moses concerning the need to delegate some of his work to others. The author of Character Sketches looks upon this as a turning point in Moses leadership where he rejected God's plan and adopted Jethros. The commentator writes, "The leader's request for less responsibility was granted, but the cost was far greater than he anticipated. He lost direct contact with many of the people, and they lost some of their respect for him. Confusion of leadership resulted and his most trusted friends began to challenge his authority. As a result, the goal which he had worked toward for eighty years suffered a setback that required forty additional years to overcome." (p. 123) The commentator concludes by saying that these seventy "became the organization which years later voted to crucify the Son of God."

The next two pages contain additional material to illustrate how wrong Moses was to give up a part of his responsibility to others. The strong implication in the whole section is that if he had trusted the Lord to help him, he could have done it all himself. That was God's plan.

It is easy to see how that this kind of thinking would militate against a sharing of responsibility in a team ministry. Delegating a task to another man would evidently be significant of weakness with the probability of disastrous results.

There is no evidence in Scripture that the Lord disapproved of Jethro's plan. Certainly blaming Moses' later troubles and the action of the Sanhedrin on this delegation of responsibility is unwarranted. It seems like the author is stretching the point to build the case for his idea of leadership.