

LAW AND GOSPEL FOR EVERYDAY
Dr. Carl C. Fickenscher II
Bishop, CA
June 9-12, 2008

Course Description

A return to Walther's classic, with application for today's pastoral setting, for preaching, and for personal witnessing and care by pastors and laity. Insights particularly in the uses of Law and Gospel not usually addressed in homiletics courses—applying God's Word rightly to everyday life.

Course Objectives

Through reading and through extensive discussion, the participant will

1. More fully appreciate that the proper distinction between Law and Gospel is a unique and precious contribution which Lutheran homiletics has made to Christian preaching and to the Christian life,
2. Become further adept at effectively communicating properly divided Law and Gospel in today's preaching settings,
3. Gain further skill in properly dividing Law and Gospel in situations of pastoral care, and
4. Grow in confidence for personal witnessing and concern for those around us as a result of deepening understanding of the proper distinction between Law and Gospel.

Units of Instruction

- I. The Distinction between Law and Gospel: Thesis I
- II. The Key to the Scriptures: Theses II-IV
- III. Stern Law Followed by Sweet Gospel: Theses V-VII
- IV. A Time for Law; A Time for Gospel: Theses VIII-X
- V. The Roles of Contrition and Faith: Theses XI-XIV
- VI. Reforming, Not Conforming: Theses XV-XVII
- VII. How Serious Is Sin?: Theses XVIII-XIX
- VIII. Salvation Status: Theses XX-XXI
- IX. Pietists or Piety?: Theses XXII-XXIII
- X. The Final Word: Theses XXIV-XXV

Pre-class Assignment

READ OR REVISIT Walther text as basis for class discussions.

Required Text

Walther, C.F.W. *The Proper Distinction between Law and Gospel*. Translated by W.H.T. Dau. St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1986.