

The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel  
by CFW Walther  
**The Twenty-Fourth Evening Lecture**

13. Melanchthon said that “The cause lies in men why some give their assent to the promises of grace...” What scriptural truth is in direct opposition to this statement? (pg 264 top.)

14. Melanchthon may have been the first proponent of “decision theology.” What is Melanchthon’s answer to someone who objects that he is unable to obey the voice of the Gospel and accept Jesus? (pg 264 middle.)

15. How should an Orthodox pastor advise such a person? (pg 264 middle)

16. It *is* possible for a person to cooperate with divine grace — but only *when*? (pg 264 bottom.)

17. The subject of “free will” always comes up in discussions having to do with conversion. How did Melanchthon define free will? (pg 265 middle.)

1. Walther’s evening lectures were delivered in 1885. When, according to Walther, was rationalism dominant among Protestant theologians in Germany? (pg 258 bottom.)

2. The rationalists denied the spiritual and supernatural truths of Scripture. All that was left was a sort of “vapid, pagan morality.” What were some examples of ridiculous sermon themes preached by rationalists? (pg 259 top.)

3. Walther offers praise and thanks to God that “those awful times are past — let us hope forever!” But can you name the theological trend of our day that — like rationalism — dismisses spiritual realities in the pursuit of practical good works?

4. What demand on the part of a faithful pastor is *not* a

violation of this principle? And why not? (pg 260 top.)

5. That is not the error against which this thesis is directed.  
*What is?* (pg 260 middle.)

6. Who was especially good at doing this — inviting his hearers to believe while seldom demanding faith? (pg 260 bottom.)

7. If you spend a lot of time telling people that *they must believe*, what impression are they likely to come away with? (pg 261 middle.)

8. If a preacher merely repeats again and again the axiom that “faith alone saves,” what despairing reaction is he likely to provoke in his hearers? (pg 261 bottom.)

9. We do say that faith is required for salvation. What do we

not say? (pg 262 top.)

10. In various places, Scripture does “command” or “demand” faith. Does that prove that man can produce faith on his own? (pg 262 middle.)

11. “Synergism” is the teaching that a person is able to cooperate in his salvation. Melancthon, a close friend of Luther, fell prey to this error. Can you tell which part of this quote by Melancthon is correct, and which part is incorrect?  
*“There is, and must be, a reason in men why some are predestinated unto salvation while others are reprobated and damned.”* (pg 263 top.)

12. When the question arises, “Why are some saved and not others?” what answer should we give? (pg 263 bottom.)