

18. Walther quotes an Easter sermon by Martin Luther that speaks of the treasures gained by Christ on Good Friday. How does Luther encourage those who “wish to make use of these great treasures”? (pg 378 middle)

19. This true Lutheran faith is what is missing in the pietistic churches: “they do not believe that redemption has been completely bestowed as a gift on all men.” Rather, what do they imagine? (pg 378 bottom)

20. Why, according to Luther, is unbelief the same as blasphemy? (pg 378 bottom)

21. If God himself stood before us and proclaimed our forgiveness, we would eagerly and joyfully believe it. But we should believe it no less when proclaimed by whom? (pg 379 middle)

The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel

by CFW Walther

The Thirty-Sixth Evening Lecture

1. Walther says, “One should think that after their fall into sin and unutterable misery all men would with great joy accept the doctrine of Holy Scripture that a person is made righteous and saved by grace alone, through faith in Jesus Christ.” But is that actually the case? (pg 370 bottom)

2. What is the reason for that? What is hidden in the nature of every person? (pg 371 top)

3. What are some of the scriptural examples that Walther gives of people who thought the Gospel was *too easy*? (pg 371 middle)

4. We’ve spoken of the Pietists’ error of teaching that a person needs to struggle in order to be converted. What was the second major mistake that the Pietists made? (pg 372 middle)

5. The apostles said to people, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you shall be saved.” But what did the Pietists tell people? (pg 372 bottom)

6. Proverbs 27:7 says that “*the full soul loathes a honeycomb.*” How is that similar to a person who does not realize his sin? (pg 373 middle)

7. “The Lord has declared that a person who simply will not quit a certain sin, *can* not believe in Him.” This is true. But what inference may *not* be drawn from this fact? (pg 373 bottom)

8. “To tell a person he may not believe” is contrary to what scriptural truth?(pg 373 bottom)

9. In 2 Cor 5, 14 we read: *If One died for all, then were all dead.* Complete the sentence: “By this precious statement the apostle means to say that, since Christ died...” (pg 374 top)

10. Furthermore, Walther points out, it is contrary to the Gospel! When people have learned by experience that they are poor, lost sinners it is horrible to tell them what? (pg 374 bottom)

11. Read Matthew 18:18. What is another Bible teaching that is contradicted if we tell people they must achieve certain qualities before they can be forgiven? (pg 375 top)

12. In what ways is God’s forgiving sinful mankind similar to a king who grants amnesty to a rebellious town? (pg 375 bottom)

13. Can God’s absolution benefit a person if he doesn’t believe in it? (pg 376 middle)

14. How does this same truth apply to the Lord’s supper? (pg 376 middle)

15. Finally, mistaking inability to believe for not being permitted to believe is contrary to whose practice?(pg 376 bottom)

16. Walther deals with the objection that the Pietists had “good intentions.” That is, they withheld the Gospel out of fear that someone who was still unrepentant might derive false comfort from its preaching. What does Walther say to that? (pg 377 middle)

17. What further (rather unsavory) analogy does Walther bring to illustrate the fact that, when the Law has done its work the Gospel must be applied promptly? (pg 377 bottom)