

18. On the other hand, Walther says that “even the most corrupt congregation can be improved by nothing else than...” *what?* (pg 388 top)

19. What does Martin Luther, commenting on Romans 12:1, conclude about a preacher who tries to produce good works by applying force to his hearers? (pg 388 middle)

20. What does Walther consider “a shocking sight”? (pg 388 bottom)

21. Walther says that it is a profound mistake for a minister “to think that he cannot induce the unwilling to do God’s will by preaching the Gospel.” Rather than “act the policeman,” what ought a Gospel preacher to do? (pg 389 middle)

22. Walther says that the Law “reaches its culmination and puts forth its best and principal effort” by doing what? (pg 390 bottom)

23. What effect does the preaching of the Law produce? Does it cause its hearers to *love* the Law? (pg 390 bottom)

## The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel

by CFW Walther

# The Thirty-Seventh Evening Lecture

1. What is one of the most “necessary and important qualities of a minister”? (pg 379 bottom)

2. As the apostle Paul expresses in Romans 9:3, a Gospel preacher would rather have *what* happen to himself than “be the cause why any soul entrusted to him must perish”? (pg 380 top)

3. There is, however, a *false* zeal that certain preachers have. What are some possible reasons that might lie behind this false zeal? (pg 380 middle)

4. Walther says that it’s easy to preach zealously the thoughts of one’s own heart. What is much more difficult, and why? (pg 381 top)

5. Walther quotes the famous passage in Jeremiah 31:31–34, in which God’s old and new covenants are contrasted. Human beings had the Law in their hearts even before the fall into sin, but what purpose did that Law *never* serve? (pg 382 top)

6. “*I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.*” That means nothing else than...” *what?* (pg 382 bottom)

7. Those who try to force good works by preaching the Law in this time of the New Testament are in effect trying to turn Christians into *what?* (pg 383 top)

8. “The Law has no other purpose than to reveal men’s sins, not to remove them.” In fact, Walther notes, far from removing sins, what is the actual effect of the preaching of the Law? (pg 383 middle)

9. Even pagan poets like Ovid recognized a perverse trait in human beings — what is that trait? (pg 383 bottom)

10. Second Corinthians 3:6 says “*for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.*” What does Paul mean by “the letter” in that passage? (pg 384 top)

11. Psalm 119:32 teaches that the only way for me as a Christian to “*run the way of God’s commandments*” (do good works) is when what happens? (pg 384 middle)

12. Whom does Walther consider a “foolish preacher”? (pg 384 bottom)

13. The Galatians, particularly, had been misled by false teachers who told them that they had to do good works to be saved. What pointed question did Paul ask them in Galatians 3:2? (pg 385 top)

14. Walther says, “If you want to revive your future congregations and cause the spirit of peace, joy, faith, and confidence, the childlike spirit, the Spirit of soul-rest, to take up His abode among the members of your congregation, you must, for God’s sake, not” do *what?* (pg 385 bottom)

15. Whom does Walther say is the worst about confounding the Law and Gospel in this way? What do they accomplish by all their earnest preaching of ethics? (pg 386 top)

16. Walther gives many examples illustrating how this rationalistic preaching of ethics accomplishes nothing. In fact, “by means of the Law we cannot raise anything better than” *what?* (pg 386 bottom)

17. When even a Lutheran minister observes that all his preaching seems fruitless, and gross sins still occur among his hearers, what wrong conclusion is he liable to come to? (pg 387 bottom)