

# A Brief Exercise in Law and Gospel

1 John 1:7 The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. Law  Gospel

Mat 5:48 Be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect. Law  Gospel

1 Tim 5:22 Keep yourself pure. Law  Gospel

Mat 18:11 The Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. Law  Gospel

1 Tim 6:8 Having food and clothing, let us be content. Law  Gospel

Hab 2:4 The just shall live by his faith. Law  Gospel

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death. Law  Gospel

Rom 6:23 The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Law  Gospel

Mark 16:16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved. Law  Gospel

Isa 43:1 Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine.

Law  Gospel

James 4:11 Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. Law  Gospel

Mat 11:28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Law  Gospel

*We believe, teach, and confess that the distinction between law and Gospel is an especially glorious light that is to be maintained with great diligence in the Church so that, according to St. Paul's admonition, the Word of God may be divided rightly (2 Timothy 2:15). Strictly speaking, the Law is a divine doctrine which teaches what is right and God-pleasing and which condemns everything that is sinful and contrary to God's will. Therefore everything which condemns sin is and belongs to the proclamation of the Law. But the Gospel, strictly speaking, is the kind of doctrine that teaches what a man who has not kept the Law and is condemned by it should believe, namely, that Christ has satisfied and paid for all guilt and without man's merit has obtained and won for him forgiveness of sins, the "righteousness that avails before God (Romans 1:17; 1 Corinthians 5:21), and eternal life.*

**Formula of Concord, Epitome, V:2-5**

*The Gospel... teaches what a man should believe in order to obtain the forgiveness of sins from God, since man has failed to keep the Law of God and has transgressed it, his corrupted nature, thoughts, words, and deeds war against the Law, and he is therefore subject to the wrath of God, to death, to temporal miseries, and to the punishment of hell-fire. (The Gospel is) a good and joyful message that God wills not to punish sins but to forgive them for Christ's sake. Accordingly, every penitent sinner... must put his confidence solely on the Lord Jesus Christ, "who was put to death because of our trespasses and raised because God declared us righteous.*

**Formula of Concord, Thorough Declaration, V:20-22**