

Study Guide

# Law and Gospel

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abridged by

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Congregational  
Assistant Program



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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Section A**

What ability did Doctor Martin Luther consider important?

### **Section B**

After reading Dr. Luther's definitions, write your own definition for:

Law –

Gospel –

### **Sections C - H**

What is true about both law and gospel?

C –

D –

E –

F –

G –

H –

### **Sections I-O**

Fill in the chart on the next page by giving six differences between law and gospel, using the categories listed in section I, and filling in details from sections J through O.

### **For Discussion**

Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints are also called Mormons. Mormon missionaries claim that they are teaching the gospel. They say that the gospel is a series of laws that the Heavenly Father has given us to show us how to get to celestial heaven. What is wrong with their definition of gospel? How does Galatians 1:6-9 apply to them?

	<b>LAW</b>	<b>GOSPEL</b>
<b>How revealed</b>		
<b>Contents</b>		
<b>Promises</b>		
<b>Threats</b>		
<b>Effects</b>		
<b>People to Tell</b>		

## **THESIS ONE**

### **Sections A, B**

After you prepare to teach something, what should you check?

### **Section C**

Who should hear the gospel? Who should not hear the gospel?

### **Section D**

Demonstrate from your answers to section C how the application of law and gospel is not always logical.

### **Section E-G**

If you knew that someone was speaking the way that the people speak in these passages, would you speak law or gospel to them? Why?

E –

F –

G –

### **Sections I-K**

What special insights about presenting law and gospel does the Holy Spirit give you in these passages?

### **Sections L-P**

Why is it important to know the people you are speaking law and gospel to?

### **Sections Q, R**

How can we say that law and gospel do not contradict each other?

### **For Discussion**

Some Christians tell people in prison to stay away from drugs so that they will stay out of prison. Evaluate how useful that advice is.

## **THESIS TWO**

### **Section A**

Who should not hear the gospel? Give an example of a “secure sinner.”

### **Section B**

Retell Matthew 7:6 in your own words. Apply it to a situation in the life of your congregation.

### **Section C**

How does Isaiah 26:10 apply to you personally?

### **Section D**

Who are the Pharisees of today?

### **Sections E, F**

What ought to be said to a couple that is having sex before they are married?

### **For Discussion**

How does God want us to speak to an impenitent alcoholic?



## **THESIS THREE**

### **Section A**

How do the two passages apply to people in your congregation today?

### **Section B**

Why did Jesus forgive the woman's sins?

### **Section C**

Read Luke 19. What is the outward evidence of Zacchaeus' repentance?

### **Section D**

Read Luke 15:11-32. How does the parable apply to you personally?

### **Section E**

Why does Jesus promise paradise that day to the criminal?

### **For Discussion**

A homosexual man is quite sorry for having homosexual thoughts and acting them out. He is having a hard time not thinking of homosexual things again. What do you tell him?

## **THESIS FOUR**

### **Section A**

What is necessary in order to be forgiven?

### **Section B**

Look at your answers for sections B and E on the previous page. Do they imply that repentance is a cause of the forgiveness of sins?

### **Sections C, D, E**

Explain these sections in your own words.

C –

D –

E –

### **Sections F-J**

What does “repentance” mean when it is used in the Bible?

### **Sections K-N**

What does “gospel” mean when it is used in the Bible?

### **For Discussion**

Agree or Disagree - A person has to repent to go to heaven.

## **THESIS FIVE**

### **Section A**

When we say, "Believe the gospel," we are telling people to do something. Why isn't that law?

### **Sections B, C**

Tell the main point of these two sections in your own words.

### **Section D**

Is it appropriate to say, "I have accepted Jesus into my heart"? Why or why not?

### **Section E**

Why does God tell us to keep the law perfectly when He knows we can't do that?

### **For Discussion**

Is faith something that you do or something that God does in you?

## **THESIS SIX**

### **Section A**

What does Jesus mean when He speaks Matthew 16:18?

### **Sections B-D**

What are some of the Bible's pictures for what the church is like? What does each one show you about the church?

### **Section E**

Tell the main point of this section in your own words.

### **Sections F, G**

Under what circumstances is it right to tell someone to join the Lutheran church?

### **Sections H, I**

Why not join all of the present Christian churches together into one, large church? Why not worship with Christians of other denominations?

### **For Discussion**

"Proselytizing" or "stealing sheep" is the process of trying to get members of other Christian churches to come to our own. Why is it wrong?

## **THESIS SEVEN**

### **Section A**

Why doesn't it work to tell a child to "be good"?

### **Sections B-D**

What is the law good for?

### **Sections E, F**

What do you say if you want people in your congregation to behave better? Give a specific example.

### **For Discussion**

Some Christian churches demand that their members "tithe," that is, give a tenth of everything they earn to the church. Evaluate the practice.

## **THESIS EIGHT**

### **Section A**

What is the ideal balance of law and gospel in Christian teaching?

### **Section B**

What does Luke 2:14 mean?

### **Section C**

Explain this section in your own words.

### **Section D**

How does 1 Corinthians 15:3 apply to you personally?

### **Section E**

Why let the gospel predominate in your teaching?

### **For Discussion**

The next time you teach something, how will you let the gospel predominate on your first day of class?

