



In our [last Conversation](#), we started examining why the insistence in making a distinction between Law and Gospel (find Part A here). In Today's Conversation (Part B), the Director of Communications (Dr. T) probes this further with Rev. Al Lewis:

Dr. T: Does the Book of Concord speak to insisting that we distinguish between Law and Gospel?

Rev. Lewis: The Formula of Concord Solid Declaration IV points out just how important it is to properly distinguish Law and Gospel as we journey through this sinful world stating:

“As the distinction between the Law and the Gospel is a special brilliant light, which serves to the end that God’s Word may be rightly divided, and the Scriptures of the holy prophets and apostles may be properly explained and understood, we must guard it with especial care, in order that these two doctrines may not be mingled with one another, or a law be made out of the Gospel, whereby the merit of Christ is obscured and troubled consciences are robbed of their comfort, which they otherwise have in the holy Gospel when it is preached genuinely and in its purity, and by which they can support themselves in their most grievous trials against the terrors of the Law” (BookOfConcord.Org).

Applying both Law and Gospel to our daily lives allows the Law to do its proper work of convicting us of our sin and our inability to save ourselves. And then we hear the Gospel in all its sweetness as we are assured that all our sins are paid for in full and we stand before God holy and blameless in His sight in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rev. Al Lewis graduated from CLS in 1992 and served as a parish pastor in B.C. and Alberta. After retiring in 2013 he ministered as an Intentional Interim Pastor in three congregations over ten years dealing mainly with conflict ministry. He is currently serving as vacancy pastor at King of Kings Lutheran Church, Dickson, AB.

If you are interested in learning more on how to properly distinguish between Law and Gospel, Rev. Lewis provides us with a very important teaching tool. You may read [C.F.W. Walther's Theses on Law and Gospel](#).

Rev. Lewis makes another suggestion: Law and Gospel How to Read and Apply the Bible, C.F.W. Walther, A Reader's Edition, Concordia Publishing House.

Join in on our next *Conversation*, as we continue our journey back to basics with another pastor on a related topic: Can the Bible be trusted even when it's hard to understand?