imbibe at the feet of these august students of Luther’s greatest legacy: the proper distinction.
—Rev. Jonathan Fisk, on-air personality for KFUO radio, host and creative consultant for Worldview Everlasting, and author of Broken: 7 “Christian” Rules That Every Christian Ought to Break as Often as Possible

In our day, when many Lutherans seem to have lost their way biblically, this book is much needed. It is for those who preach the Word and those who hear the Word, for the theologically trained and those who aren’t. It is a gift to our churches and to all who are committed to the “necessary distinction.”
—The Rev. Dr. David M. Wendel, Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry and Ecumenism, The North American Lutheran Church

The Necessary Distinction is a sparkling collection of essays. The writing is done with clarity and conviction and, most of all, with a deep appreciation for the Lutheran tradition. This book is a cool drink for those thirsty for new perspectives on the proper relationship between Law and Gospel. It is a work that is indeed “necessary” for preachers and teachers seeking to proclaim God’s radical grace in Jesus Christ.
—Dr. Mark D. Tranvik, Professor of Religion, Augsburg College, Minneapolis, Minnesota

This collection of scholarship by an impressive array of theologians cuts to the heart of genuine Lutheran theology, the distinction between Law and Gospel, and demonstrates why this distinction has been, is, and must be the necessary distinction in biblical preaching and teaching if we are to maintain and proclaim the vibrant, Christian, saving message entrusted to the Church by Christ Himself. Both pastors and laypeople will benefit from the essays contained here, and, given that its relevance is rooted in the timeless treasure of the properly divided Word, it will hold its value on one’s bookshelf for decades and beyond.
—Wade Johnston, PhD, Assistant Professor of Theology, Wisconsin Lutheran College, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The essays in this book call us back to the center of theological inquiry, pastoral care, and Christian living. When pastors and churches across denominational lines are tempted to cater to the culture or myopically react to it, the distinction between God’s Law and Gospel is easily blurred, the Gospel is lost, and troubled consciences are left falsely secure in their own works or in terror of God’s judgment. This collection of essays offers the Church at large a timely resource on the proper distinction of Law and Gospel that will challenge, edify, and, by God’s grace, bring about repentance and the righteousness of faith in Jesus Christ.
—Dr. Jason D. Lane, Assistant Professor of Theology, Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, Wisconsin
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