



# Martin Luther: Ethical Reform

Chi Rho Lecture Series

Northwest Christian University, Eugene

October 28, 2017

## I. Luther's ethics

- A. *The Freedom of a Christian* (1520) – historical context
- B. Freedom and Service
  - 1. Christians are free lords
  - 2. Christians are dutiful servants
- C. Faith active in love
- D. The doctrine of vocation

## II. Luther's ethics – case studies

- A. Economics
- B. Poverty and the care of the poor
- C. Temporal authority
  - 1. Two governances
  - 2. The orders of creation/natural orders
    - a. *oeconomia*
    - b. *politia*
    - c. *ecclesia*
    - d. The orders of creation – their purpose
  - 3. *politia*
    - a. divine ordination
    - b. instrument of the law
    - c. obedience and disobedience
    - d. functions
    - e. limitations of temporal authority
    - f. monarchy
    - g. relationship of *politia* and *ecclesia*
    - h. Christian vocation
- D. War and peace
  - 1. Four types of war
  - 2. “Just” war
  - 3. The vocation of soldier
  - 4. Peace – the ideal
- E. Luther and the Jews
  - 1. Christian antisemitism
  - 2. *That Jesus Christ was born a Jew* (1523) – LW 47:57-98
  - 3. *On the Jews and their Lies* (1543) – LW 47:121-346
  - 4. Luther's ethical principles

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