

# God's Twofold Kingdom: Lutheran Perspectives on Kingdom-Centric Ministry

*Taught by Gabriel Morgan*



“Our churches are facing major challenges today. In addition to many social, environmental, and political crises, we also have a basic division within our churches and our clergy that is unsustainable and needs to be resolved, namely that between a view which reduces the Gospel to a political or social message, and that which views the Gospel as having nothing to do with politics or social justice at all.

One of the most poorly understood aspects of the teachings of Martin Luther was his doctrine of God's two kingdoms. For Luther, just as God speaks to us in a voice of Law and Gospel, so God's kingdom also has an aspect of worldly justice and an aspect of heavenly grace. Unfortunately, Luther's thinking in this area remained undeveloped. Nevertheless, when faithfully reconstructed, it provides clarity and guidance for many of the church's most pressing problems in our present historical moment.”

In this presentation, Gabriel Morgan “will offer a basic summary of what Luther means by ‘two kingdoms,’ the problems in Luther's underdeveloped thinking here, important updates to this teaching from Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and how it can help guide the church on how to approach ministry in a Kingdom-centric way.”

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Gabriel Morgan is a graduate of Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, receiving the Master of Divinity degree in 2012, with the Hitchcock Prize for excellence in historical theology. He also holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia, which is now called United Lutheran Seminary. His dissertation was on Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Paul Ricoeur. Originally from Tampa, Gabriel is also an alumnus of the University of South Florida with a Bachelor's in philosophy. He and his wife Erin live in Southeast Seminole Heights.

**When:** A morning workshop. Saturday, March 11, from 9:00am-12:00pm.  
Refreshments and breaks will be provided.