

THE MEDALLION'S REVERSE SIDE

Prominent to this composition is the crucified yet victorious risen Christ Jesus, garbed as the Great High Priest and King of kings/Lord of lords (Revelation 1 and 19). His cross behind Him (by which the world is redeemed through His perfect atoning sacrifice) is flanked at each end by icons of the four Gospels: the angel-Matthew; the lion-Mark, the ox-Luke, the eagle-John; each a faithful and true witness to the Savior's life, death and resurrection. Behind this statement of the Gospel is the Law, the tablets of stone bearing God's Ten Commandments. Though represented with Roman numerals, they are arranged from right to left, reminding us they were first written to the Hebrews. The biblical references John 1:17; Luke 24:46-47; and Ephesians 2:5 are classic Law-and-Gospel passages found in Walther's lectures.

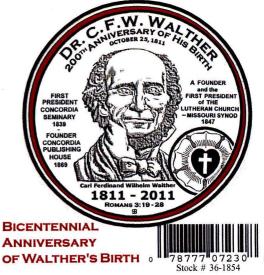
THE MEDALLION'S OBVERSE SIDE

This portrait depicts Dr. Walther in his mature years, as he may have appeared at the time of his now famous "Law/Gospel Lecture" series, three years before his death. His portrait is flanked by mottos noting some of his tremendous contributions. The single biblical reference (Romans 3:19-28) at the base is iconic to his stance on justification by faith and *The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel* referred to in his very first evening lecture given on September 12, 1884, and then indexed not less than seven more times in following lectures.

See also The Servant of the Word, by August R. Suelflow, CPH; The Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel, by C. F. W. Walther, CPH; Church and Ministry, by C. F. W. Walther, CPH; Zion on the Mississippi, by Walter Forster, CPH; Moving Frontiers, ed. by Carl S. Meyer, CPH; Law and Gospel: How to Read and Apply the Bible, Reader's Edition, by C. F. W. Walther, CPH; Lutheran Cyclopedia, CPH; Concordia Historical Institute: President Walther; Concordia Historical Institute: Walther Biographical Notes.

About the concept designer and artist:

Rev. Scott R. Blazek, an LCMS pastor since 1975, earned his undergraduate degree in graphic design. In addition to illustrating children's books and posters, Blazek enjoys acrylic painting and numismatic art. After designing the 1993 Bill of Rights/James Madison U.S. commemorative \$5 gold coin, he also designed, executed and produced the 1997 LCMS 150th commemorative. He also designed commemoratives for Luther's death (1996), Melanchthon's birth (1997), and Katie Luther's birth (1999). See also www.scottblazek.com.



From the President: What an honor and privilege to remember in this bicentennial year this great gift from God to the Church, the Rev. Dr. C. F. W. Walther! To commemorate the people of the past whom God led to be faithful and steadfast is biblical. We remember how God directed Joshua to draw 12 stones from the riverbed as the children of Israel crossed the Jordan, and to erect them as a monument to remind future generations of God's promises kept. Commemorative medallions have been used over the centuries in a similar way, but on a smaller scale. When someone asks about this Walther commemorative that you've displayed, you then have a wonderful opportunity to share the message of salvation in Jesus Christ!

Rev. Dr. Matthey C. Harrison, President The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod