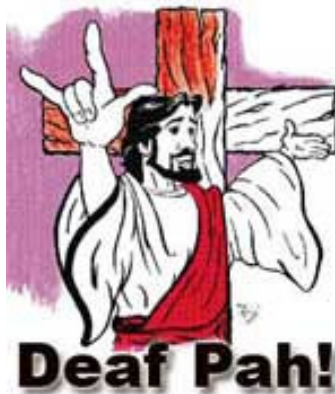


**THE BIBLE SAYS WHAT?:**

**KOEHLER'S DOGMATICS**

**Study Guide**

*(Taught by Rev. Daryl Gehlbach)*



**Growing Together in Faith**

## *Study Guide for*

# **THE BIBLE SAYS WHAT?: KOEHLER'S DOGMATICS**

## **Study Guide**

The following questions are to help you think about the material you learned in each of the lessons. They are organized to follow the outline in the textbook "*Summary of Christian Doctrine*" by Koehler. As you study each chapter on the videotape, please also read the chapter in the textbook. **Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper and discuss them with your mentor.**

At the end of each part are summary questions. The summary questions are to help you put together what you learned in the preceding chapters.

## ***PART I – The Holy Scriptures***

### **Chapter I**

*Lesson 1 (Koehler: Part 1)*

- a) Why do we study God's Word?
- b) What must we do to learn about God and His Will?

*Lesson 2*

- a) What is our goal as Bible teachers?

*Lesson 3 (Koehler: Part 2)*

- a) Give four reasons why we should not trust man-made doctrines.
- b) What do Lutheran pastors and teachers promise about their teachings?

### **Chapter II**

*Lesson 4*

- a) How did God give us the Bible?
- b) When we say "the Bible is inspired" what three things do we mean?

*Lesson 5*

- a) How did the writers learn the things they wrote in the Bible?

*Lesson 6 (Koehler: Part 3)*

- a) Explain why the Bible writers are not robots or secretaries.

*Lesson 7 (Koehler: Part 4)*

- a) Why is it important to believe that all the Bible is inspired?
- b) Some people believe only parts of the Bible are inspired. Explain why their opinion is dangerous.

*Lesson 8*

- a) Explain how a sermon can be God's Word.

## **Chapter III**

*Lesson 9*

- a) What does it mean to accept the Bible's authority?
- b) What is the value of our opinions and feelings when interpreting the Bible?

*Lesson 10 (Koehler: Part 5)*

- a) How does the Bible change our lives? Where does its power come from?
- b) Why can we trust the doctrines in the Lutheran Confessions?

*Lesson 11*

- a) Some parts of the Bible are difficult to understand. Why?

## **Chapter IV**

*Lesson 12*

- a) What are the two parts of the Bible? How many books are in each part?
- b) What are the two important doctrines in the Bible?

## **Chapter V**

*Lesson 13 (Koehler: Part 6)*

- a) Explain the three purposes of the Bible.

*Lesson 14*

- a) Why is the Bible different from all other religious books?
- b) Why did God give us the Bible?

## **Chapter VI**

*Lesson 15*

- a) How does reading and studying God's Word help you?

*Lesson 16 (Koehler: Part 7)*

- a) How does the Bible affect your heart and life?
- b) How does the Bible help you warn against false doctrine?
- c) How does the Bible correct you?

*Lesson 17*

- a) What is righteous living?
- b) How does the Bible comfort you?

**PART I SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. The Bible is inspired. What does this mean for its authority, truthfulness, power, sufficiency and clearness?
2. Why is it dangerous to make a man-made teaching more important than the Bible?
3. What are the five ways we should use the Bible?

## ***PART II – God***

### **Chapter VII**

*Lesson 18 (Koehler: Part 8)*

- a) What are two natural proofs that God exists?

*Lesson 19*

- a) What are two things about God that conscience and nature cannot reveal to people?
- b) Where can we find true knowledge about God?

### **Chapter VIII**

*Lesson 20*

- a) When the Bible describes God as having an arm, how do we understand this?

*Lesson 21 (Koehler: Part 9)*

- a) What does it mean that God is eternal?
- b) What does it mean that God never changes?

*Lesson 22*

- a) What does it mean that God knows all things?
- b) God is holy. What does this mean?

*Lesson 23*

- a) What does it mean that God is just and righteous?

*Lesson 24 (Koehler: Part 10)*

- a) Describe the two ways that God works – directly and indirectly.
- b) What does it mean that God is good? Give six examples from the video.

### **Chapter IX**

*Lesson 25*

- a) How many Gods are there? Who is the one true God?

*Lesson 26*

- a) Why do we accept and believe that God is Triune?
- b) How do we know the Holy Spirit is God?

(Koehler: Part 11)

**Lesson 27**

- a) What does it mean when we say that God is Trinity (Triune)?

**PART II SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. What does natural knowledge tell us about God and why is natural knowledge not enough to save us?
2. God is eternal, unchangeable, wise, holy, just (fair), and good. Explain how these give comfort to the Christian.
3. Someone says, "You Christians worship three gods." Explain about the Trinity.

***PART III – Creation and Providence***

**Chapter X**

*Lesson 28*

- a) Where do we learn about how the world began?
- b) We cannot *prove* God made the world, so how do we know He made the world?

*Lesson 29*

- a) In Genesis, Chapter 1, what does the word "day" mean?
- b) Describe what God did each of the six days of creation.

*Lesson 30 (Koehler: Part 12)*

- a) What does evolution teach? What does evolution reject?
- b) Why can't evolution and creation be combined?

## Chapter XI

### *Lesson 31*

- a) How does God continue to support and care for the earth?

### *Lesson 32*

- a) What do we mean by “natural law”?
- b) What is a miracle?

### *Lesson 33 (Koehler: Part 13)*

- a) What does it mean that we have “free will”?
- b) How does the Holy Spirit help the believer please God?

### *Lesson 34*

- a) Describe the four different ways that God rules the world.

### **PART III SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. What is the most important difference between creation and evolution?
2. Why does God permit evil things to happen?

## ***PART IV – Angels and Men***

## Chapter XII

### *Lesson 35 (Koehler: Part 14)*

- a) How do we know angels exist?
- b) Describe how angels are different from and similar to people.

### *Lesson 36*

- a) How are angels different than God?
- b) What four things do holy angels do?

### *Lesson 37 (Koehler: Part 15)*

- a) Why are there evil angels?

- b) What will happen to evil angels on Judgment Day?

*Lesson 38*

- a) Describe evil angels.
- b) How do evil angels try to destroy the Church?

## **Chapter XIII**

*Lesson 39*

- a) Describe how God made Adam and Eve.
- b) What does evolution teach about people?

*Lesson 40 (Koehler: Part 16)*

- a) What three things reside in our souls?

*Lesson 41*

- a) Explain the difference between the souls of believers and the souls of unbelievers in relationship to God.

*Lesson 42*

- a) What does it mean that Adam and Eve were very good?

*Lesson 43*

- a) How did sin enter the world?
- b) What are the four consequences of sin?

**PART IV SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. Someone says, "*I believe angels are the souls of dead people.*" Is this true? Explain why or why not.
2. Why did God make people?
3. How are people different from animals?



## ***PART V – The Law and Sin***

### **Chapter XIV**

#### *Lesson 44*

- a) What is our conscience?
- b) What does the conscience prove is in our heart?

#### *Lesson 45*

- a) Where does God reveal his perfect, never-changing will?
- b) What are the three purposes of the Law?

### **Chapter XV**

#### *Lesson 46 (Koehler: Part 18)*

- a) What is sin?
- b) Why do people sin?

#### *Lesson 47*

- a) What is the punishment for sin?
- b) Describe spiritual, physical and eternal death.

### **Chapter XVI**

#### *Lesson 48 (Koehler: Part 19)*

- a) Describe original (or heart) sin.
- b) Who is the only person without original (or heart) sin?

### **Chapter XVII**

#### *Lesson 49*

- a) Describe actual sin.
- b) Why does God permit temptation?

**PART V SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. *“God permits sin, therefore God causes sin.”* Is this true? Explain your answer.
2. Someone says, *“Babies are born innocent, sin none.”* What would you say to them?
3. There is only one sin God will not forgive—the sin against the Holy Spirit. What is the sin against the Holy Spirit and why is it eternally dangerous?

***PART VI – Salvation by the Grace of God Through Christ Jesus***

**Chapter XVIII**

*Lesson 50*

- a) Why is God’s grace necessary for our salvation?
- b) Describe four (4) things about God’s grace.

**Chapter XIX**

*Lesson 51 (Koehler: Part 20)*

- a) What does Jesus mean? What does Christ mean?
- b) What does it mean to believe Jesus is the Christ?

*Lesson 52*

- a) Why is it important to believe Jesus is true God?
- b) Give three verses from the Bible that show that Jesus is God.

*Lesson 53 (Koehler: Part 21)*

- a) Suppose Jesus is not fully human, what does this mean for our salvation?
- b) Describe four ways Jesus’ human nature is unique and different from all other people.

*Lesson 54*

- a) What two things did Jesus Christ do for all people?
- b) How did Jesus pay for our sins?

## Chapter XX

*Lesson 55 (Koehler: Part 22)*

- a) What three things did Jesus accept when He suffered on the cross?
- b) What four things does Jesus' resurrection prove?

## Chapter XXI

*Lesson 56*

- a) What does Jesus continue to do for us as our Priest?
- b) Jesus rules three kingdoms – name and describe them.

### **PART VI SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. Why is it necessary for Jesus to be both true God and true man?
2. Explain how Jesus' death and resurrection are important for salvation.

## ***PART VII – Salvation by the Grace of God through the Holy Spirit***

## Chapter XXII

*Lesson 57 (Koehler: Part 23)*

- a) When the Holy Spirit converts people He does six things. Describe them.

## Chapter XXIII

*Lesson 58*

- a) Which saves us—Law or Gospel—and why?
- b) What are the two parts of repentance?

## **Chapter XXIV**

*Lesson 59 (Koehler: Part 24)*

- a) How can people lose faith?
- b) What does faith do?

## **Chapter XXV**

*Lesson 60*

- a) What is justification? How do we receive justification?
- b) How does faith show itself in a Christian's life?

## **Chapter XXVI**

*Lesson 61 (Koehler: Part 25)*

- a) Describe sanctification. How is it different from justification?
- b) Why do we want to live a holy life?

## **Chapter XXVII**

*Lesson 62*

- a) How does God's Word describe good works?
- b) Do good works save us?

## **Chapter XXVIII**

*Lesson 63*

- a) How do we know that God will hear and answer our prayers?

*Lesson 64 (Koehler: Part 261)*

- a) Why do we pray?
- b) What are five things we should do when praying?

## Chapter XXIX

### *Lesson 65*

- a) What does "we Christians should bear our cross" mean?
- b) Why can Christians suffer and still have hope?

## Chapter XXX

### *Lesson 66*

- a) How does God preserve our faith?

## Chapter XXXI

### *Lesson 67*

What does each person of the Trinity do for our faith?

### **PART VII SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. What is the relationship between good works and faith? Which is necessary for salvation?
2. Someone says, "*God doesn't answer my prayers.*" What would you say to him?
3. How do we Christians understand suffering in our life, and what should be our response?

## ***PART VIII – Salvation through the Means of Grace***

### **Chapter XXXII**

*Lesson 68 (Koehler: Part 27)*

- a) What are the three things we call the “means of grace?”
- b) Why are they called “means of grace?”

### **Chapter XXXIII**

*Lesson 69*

- a) How are Law and Gospel the same?
- b) How are Law and Gospel different?

### **Chapter XXXIV**

*Lesson 70*

- a) What is the difference between a sacrifice and a sacrament?
- b) What does a sacrament offer?

### **Chapter XXXV**

*Lesson 71 (Koehler: Part 28)*

- a) What is Baptism, and what does it do?
- b) How does remembering our Baptism help our daily life?

### **Chapter XXXVI**

*Lesson 72*

- a) What are different names for the Lord’s Supper?
- b) Why do Lutherans believe that the bread and wine ARE Jesus’ body and blood?

*Lesson 73 (Koehler: Part 29)*

- a) Why should Christians receive the Lord’s Supper often?
- b) What are the blessings in the Lord’s Supper?

**PART VIII SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. How are Baptism and the Lord's Supper sacraments?
2. St. Paul teaches us to prepare ourselves for the Lord's Supper by examining ourselves. What four things should we examine?

***PART IX – The Church***

**Chapter XXXVII**

*Lesson 74*

- a) What is the Church?
- b) How does the Bible describe the invisible (see-can't) Church?
- c) Who belongs to the invisible Church?

**Chapter XXXVIII**

*Lesson 75 (Koehler: Part 30)*

- a) Who belongs to the visible (see-can) Church?
- b) Why do we believe the Lutheran Church is the true, correct visible Church?

**Chapter XXXIX**

*Lesson 76*

- a) How does Christ rule His Church?
- b) Christ names His people "royal priests." What does this mean?

## **Chapter XL**

*Lesson 77 (Koehler: Part 31)*

- a) What does Christ do through the Office (Authority) of the Keys?

## **Chapter XLI**

*Lesson 78 (Koehler: Part 32)*

- a) The Office (Authority) of the Keys has two keys. Describe them.
- b) What is Absolution, and who should receive Absolution?

## **Chapter XLII**

*Lesson 79*

- a) What is the goal of Church discipline?
- b) Why is it important for Christians to resolve conflicts?

## **Chapter XLIII**

*Lesson 80*

- a) How is the royal priesthood different from the pastor's office?
- b) What does a congregation call a pastor to do?
- c) How does a man become a pastor?

## **Chapter XLIV**

*Lesson 81 (Koehler: Part 33)*

- a) How does the Bible describe the Antichrist?



**PART IX SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. When a person sins against you, what is your attitude and goal, and what should you do and not do?
2. What does the Holy Spirit do through the pastor?

***PART X – Civil Estates***

**Chapter XLV**

*Lesson 82*

- a) What are the duties and powers of human government?
- b) What is our Christian duty to the government?

**Chapter XLVI**

*Lesson 83 (Koehler: Part 34)*

- a) How is Church authority different from government authority?
- b) Why should we keep Church and Government separate?

**Chapter XLVII**

*Lesson 84*

- a) What is a marriage? What is marriage for?

*Lesson 85 (Koehler: Part 35)*

- a) What are the duties of the husband and wife, and why?
- b) The Bible gives two reasons to permit divorce. Name them.

**PART X SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. What can Christians do to support the government?
2. A couple tells you they have trouble with the word “obey” in the marriage vows. What do you say to them?
3. Someone wants your congregation to support a political candidate. How do you explain the separation between Church and State?

***PART XI – The Last Things***

**Chapter XLVIII**

*Lesson 86*

- a) Why do people die?
- b) How is a Christian’s death different from a non-Christian’s death?

**Chapter XLIX**

*Lesson 87 (Koehler: Part 36)*

- a) What happens to the soul and body after death?
- b) Is it possible for a person to repent after he (or she) dies?

**Chapter L**

*Lesson 88A (Koehler: Part 37)*

- a) Describe what will happen when Jesus comes again.
- b) Why does the Bible give ordinary signs for Jesus coming again?

**Chapter LI**

*Lesson 88B*

- a) Describe the two false opinions about the millennium.
- b) Why are these two opinions dangerous?

## **Chapter LII**

*Lesson 89*

- a) When Christ raises the dead what will happen to believers and unbelievers?

## **Chapter LIII**

*Lesson 90 (Koehler: Part 38)*

- a) How will Christ judge people guilty or righteous?

## **Chapter LIV**

*Lesson 91*

- a) What will happen when Jesus comes on the Last Day?

## **Chapter LV**

*Lesson 92*

- a) Describe what will happen to people in hell.

## **Chapter LVI**

*Lesson 93*

- a) How does the Bible describe eternal life?
- b) How is life in heaven different from life on earth?

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**PART XI SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. How can a person be confident he (or she) will have eternal life?
2. How does your eternal salvation affect the way you live as a Christian?

# FINAL EXAM FOR THE BIBLE SAYS WHAT? KOEHLER'S DOGMATICS

*These questions are signed at the end of the final lesson on the videotape.*

1. **Christians often have conflict with each other.** A member of your congregation gossips about you and hurts your feelings. Think about how God wants you to solve the conflict.

*Your assignment:*

1. List and explain three things you do to resolve the conflict.
2. List and explain three things you don't do to resolve the conflict.

2. **A friend says, "I don't believe God loves me."** You want to encourage her. Tomorrow, you and your friend will meet for lunch.

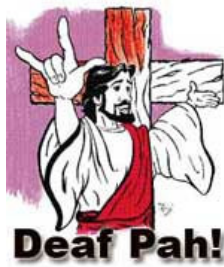
*Your assignment:*

1. List and explain four things you tell your friend.

3. **You meet a deaf person. He doesn't attend Church. He says he believes in Jesus.** During your conversation you learn that he and his girlfriend live together. You have learned about Law and Gospel.

*Your assignment:*

1. Explain the difference between Law and Gospel.
2. Consider how you would share Law and Gospel with this person. List and explain three ideas from the Law and three ideas from the Gospel that would help you.



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