

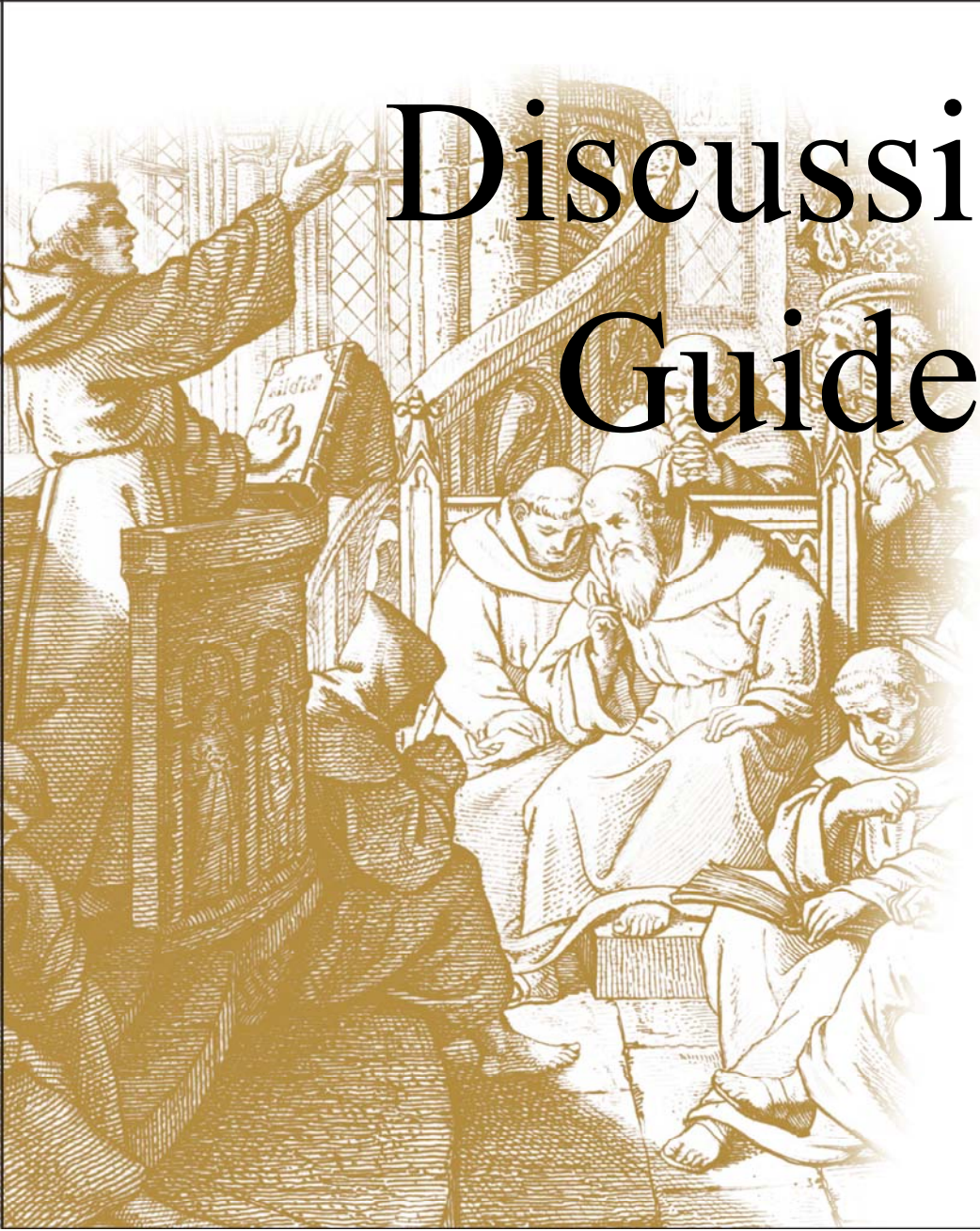
THE LARGE CATECHISM OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER

1529

THE ANNOTATED LUTHER STUDY EDITION

Discussion Guide

Kirsi I. Stjerna



THE LARGE CATECHISM OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER, 1529

Overview

Concern for teaching the basic elements of Christianity led Luther to write this *Large Catechism* for pastors, parishioners, and youth. Its contents include key biblical ideas like the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed (which in Luther's view was a summary of the Bible's teaching about God and salvation), the Lord's Prayer, and the New Testament sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion.

Discussion Questions

1. In Luther's view, what does it mean to have a god?
2. How do people fulfill the First Commandment?
3. How does fulfilling the First Commandment lead to obeying all the others?
4. If people are unable to keep the Commandments, how can they be holy or be saved?
5. In Luther's explanation to the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed, what does it mean that Jesus Christ "is my Lord"?
6. Luther often said that people are justified by faith. But in his explanation to the Third Article of the Creed, where does this faith come from?
7. What does it mean to pray for and receive our daily bread? What impact does this make on how people might live together in everyday society?
8. Why do Lutherans baptize infants?
9. What makes a person worthy to receive Holy Communion?
10. What good things come with the Christian practice of confession and forgiveness?