"Nobody in Christendom has authority to do injury or to forbid the resisting of injury. There is no authority in the church except to promote good"—so Luther (*LW*, 44: 137 f.).

I should wish to add, *mutatis mutandis*, that there is no authority in the church except to tell the truth.

Why? Because our original call to be a human being, and thus to believe only what is true as well as to do only what is right, is irrevocable—for every Christian as much as for every other human being.

13 September 2006