

Course Code: T1P1/IDE-T1P1 (M) 2005

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**  
**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2005**

**TITLE OF PAPER** : **INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL STUDIES**

**COURSE CODE** : **T1P1/IDE-T1P1**

**TIME ALLOWED** : **TWO (2) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS** :

- 1. ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
- 2. ANSWER AT LEAST ONE QUESTION FROM EACH SECTION.**
- 3. WRITE IN CLEAR GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT SENTENCES.**

**THIS QUESTION PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.**

**QUESTION 1**

What are some of the reasons why people who maintain a rigid confessional perspective of the Bible are uneasy with historical-critical reading of biblical texts?

**QUESTION 2**

Briefly discuss some of the socio-religious beliefs and practices which may have been a by-product of intercultural exchange between Jews and the other ethnic groups they came into contact with in the Mediterranean basin and throughout the ancient imperial ages.

**QUESTION 3**

Discuss the Jewish perception of theological significance of the land. Refer to certain passages in Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy and Joshua.

**QUESTION 4**

Discuss with illustrations the societal units of pre-monarchic Israel.

**QUESTION 5**

Briefly outline the various stages of composition that the Hebrew scriptures went through.

**QUESTION 6**

Why is a study of the Intertestamental period necessary?

**QUESTION 7**

Discuss the reasons behind the writing of the gospels.

**QUESTION 8**

What prompted the early Christians to fix a second canon of scripture in addition to the Jewish canon they had been using for some time?