

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

TITLE OF PAPER : **A STUDY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT**

COURSE CODE : **T2P1 (Full Time)**

TIME ALLOWED : **THREE (3) HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS : **1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS IN ALL.**
2. WRITE IN CLEAR GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT SENTENCES.

THIS QUESTION PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION 1

Identify and discuss the existential questions that the primeval authors are grappling with in Genesis 1-11.

QUESTION 2

Identify and discuss elements of patriarchal religion evident in the patriarchal narratives (Genesis 12-50).

QUESTION 3

What socio-religious purposes were the items of the Decalogue composed for? In your answer refer closely to each of the ten commandments.

QUESTION 4

Discuss the literary style and compositional history of the Book Deuteronomy.

QUESTION 5

Read 1 Kings 12 and analyse it from a perspective of socio-political deprivation.

QUESTION 6

What is a Chronicle? In your answer, point out how the 2 Books of Chronicles essentially differ in form and content from the historical narratives of Joshua, Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel and 1 & 2 Kings.

QUESTION 7

Critically comment on the theological revisions on Jewish theology associated with prophets Ezekiel and Second Isaiah.

QUESTION 8

Discuss the Jewish religious attitudes demonstrated in the writings of Ruth, Jonah and Esther.

QUESTION 9

Ecclesiastes and Job are examples of later wisdom thinking in Judaism. With reference to your own situation provide a similar interrogation of early Wisdom using either one of the two texts as your analogical clue.

QUESTION 10

Do the stories in Daniel faithfully mirror the circumstances of Jewish captives in Babylonian exile? Explain your answer by referring to characteristic features of Jewish apocalyptic interpretation of history.