

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, JULY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER : A STUDY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT  
COURSE CODE : T2P1/IDET2P1  
DURATION : THREE HOURS  
INSTRUCTIONS : 1. Answer four questions in all.  
2. Write in clear grammatically correct sentences.

DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GRANTS  
YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO.

T2P1/IDET2P1 (S) 2006

1. Identify the influences from other ancient Near Eastern creation mythology such as *Enuma Elish* and *Epic of Gilgamesh* on the primeval stories in Genesis 1-11. [25]
2. Conduct a comparative analysis of the Priestly and Elohist covenant narratives in Genesis 15 and 17 respectively. [25]
3. Identify the various strands of material in Exodus 19 and classify them according to the JEDP source traditions. [25]
4. What is your view of the Deuteronomic theological concepts of the *Cherem* and the holy war. [25]
5. Do you think King Solomon was a wise king? Support your answer with critical arguments. [25]
6. What does the text containing the response of northern tribes of Israel to Rehoboam's arrogant address reveal about other possible reasons for their decision to secede from Judah?  
*What ~~we~~ share do we have in David,  
what part in Jesse's son?  
To your tents O Israel!  
Look after your own house, O  
David (1Kings 12:16b) [25]*      ? What?      Misquote
7. Why can't the entire book of Isaiah be attributed to a single prophetic figure? *Cannot*  
[25]
8. Discuss the various uses of the psalms in Israelite worship. [25]
9. Identify the issues treated in the book of Proverbs that reflect concern with practical wisdom. [25]
10. Basing your discussion on Daniel and any prophetic book of your choice demonstrate how Jewish apocalyptic literature is distinct from prophecy. [25]

**19** IN the third month after Israel had left Egypt, they came to the wilderness of Sinai. <sup>2</sup> They set out from Rephidim and, entering the wilderness of Sinai, they encamped there, pitching their tents in front of the mountain. <sup>3</sup> Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, 'This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: <sup>4</sup> You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I have carried you on eagles' wings and brought you here to me. <sup>5</sup> If only you will now listen to me and keep my covenant, then out of all peoples you will become my special possession; for the whole earth is mine. <sup>6</sup> You will be to me a kingdom of priests, my holy nation. Those are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.'

<sup>7</sup> Moses went down, and summoning the elders of the people he set before them all these commands which the LORD had laid on him. <sup>8</sup> As one the people answered, 'Whatever the LORD has said we shall do.' When Moses brought this answer back to the LORD, <sup>9</sup> the LORD said to him, 'I am coming to you in a thick cloud, so that I may speak to you in the hearing of the people, and so their faith in you may never fail.'

When Moses reported to the LORD the pledge given by the people, <sup>10</sup> the LORD said to him, 'Go to the people and hallow them today and tomorrow and have them wash their clothes. <sup>11</sup> They must be ready by the third day, because on that day the LORD will descend on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. <sup>12</sup> You must set bounds for the people, saying, "Take care not to go up the mountain or even to touch its base." Anyone who touches the mountain shall be put to death. <sup>13</sup> No hand may touch him; he is to be stoned to death or shot: neither man nor beast may live. But when the ram's horn sounds, they may go up the mountain.' <sup>14</sup> Moses came down from the mountain to the people. He hallowed them and they

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washed their clothes. <sup>15</sup> He said, 'Be ready by the third day; do not go near a woman.' <sup>16</sup> At dawn on the third day there were peals of thunder and flashes of lightning, dense cloud on the mountain, and a loud trumpet-blast; all the people in the camp trembled.

<sup>17</sup> Moses brought the people out from the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. <sup>18</sup> Mount Sinai was enveloped in smoke because the LORD had come down on it in fire; the smoke rose like the smoke from a kiln; all the people trembled violently, <sup>19</sup> and the sound of the trumpet grew ever louder. Whenever Moses spoke, God answered him in a peal of thunder. <sup>20</sup> The LORD came down on the top of Mount Sinai and summoned Moses up to the mountaintop. <sup>21</sup> The LORD said to him, 'Go down; warn the people solemnly that they must not force their way through to the LORD to see him, or many of them will perish. <sup>22</sup> Even the priests, who may approach the LORD, must hallow themselves, for fear that the LORD may break out against them.' <sup>23</sup> Moses answered the LORD, 'The people cannot come up Mount Sinai, because you solemnly warned us to set bounds to the mountain and keep it holy.' <sup>24</sup> The LORD said, 'Go down; then come back, bringing Aaron with you, but let neither priests nor people force their way up to the LORD, for fear that he may break out against them.' <sup>25</sup> So Moses went down to the people and spoke to them.