

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
BA HUMANITIES/ IDE BA HUMANITIES/ B. Ed II
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES
FINAL EXAMINATION MAY 2008**

COURSE TITLE : A STUDY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

COURSE CODE : T2P1/ IDE T2P1

DURATION : THREE (3) HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Choose and answer FOUR (4) questions.
- b. For some of the questions refer closely to the relevant attached documents.
- c. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.

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PERMISSION TO DO SO**

T2P1 FINAL EXAM (M) MAY 2008

1. Identify and discuss the complex historical realities that lie behind the ancestral traditions in Genesis 12-50. [25]
2. In what ways are the Exodus narratives about the birth and constitution of the Hebrew community? Your analysis must be based on key narrative portions of the book of *Exodus*. [25]
3. Discuss evidence of the shaping influence of the cultural setting on the Ten Commandments. [25]
4. Basing your answer on significant clusters of the regulations in Leviticus 7-26, identify the various conceptions of the Jewish idea of holiness articulated through these regulations. [25]
5. Comment on the varying scholarly views on the interrelations between Deuteronomy and the books that precede and follow it in the Jewish canon. [25]
6. Present a critical view of the reasons behind king Saul's fall from grace. Base your answer on specific narrative incidents in *1 Samuel*. [25]
7. What is an oracle of salvation? In your answer explain the theological function of this element of prophetic speech in Jewish literary prophecy. [25]
8. Describe the socio-political setting of the prophetic messages of Amos. [25]
9. Define religious formalism and show how it is depicted by referring to specific content of any two prophetic books. [25]
10. Discuss how the book of *Lamentations* treats the experience of the exile as both a historical and theological problem. You are free to refer to other biblical texts to strengthen your answer. [25]
11. Comment on the various known interpretative perspectives on the *Song of Songs*. [25]
12. Discuss the Jewish theological rationale for classifying the book of *Daniel* as a book of prophecy. [25]