

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, APRIL/MAY 2008

TITLE OF PAPER : SELECT THEMES IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN
THOUGHT

COURSE CODE : T3P6/IDE-T3P6

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

MARKS : 100

INSTRUCTIONS :

1. ANSWER ANY **FOUR** QUESTIONS.
2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.
3. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A FRESH PAGE.
4. PARTS OF A QUESTION MAY BE ANSWERED ON THE SAME PAGE, ALLOWING FOR A SPACE OF THREE LINES IN BETWEEN.
5. CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CLARITY, ACCURACY AND GOOD THEOLOGICAL ACUMEN.

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

QUESTION ONE

Discuss the encounter between the Greco-Roman civilisations and the first century Judaism. To what extent did these civilisations impact the Jewish religious life and thought?

[25]

QUESTION TWO

“The Early Christian Church was a product of persecution.”

React to this assertion, citing pertinent examples where appropriate.

[25]

QUESTION THREE

With reference to the mission of the Apostles, illustrate how the *Pax Romana* was a crucial factor in the rapid spread of Christianity in the fourth century.

[25]

QUESTION FOUR

Critically analyze the relationship between the Church and the State during Emperor Constantine's reign.

[25]

QUESTION FIVE

“The Reformation did not happen in a vacuum as there were movements for centuries calling for a return to Biblical teachings.”

How true is this statement? Discuss.

[25]

QUESTION SIX

Explain the major divergences in the theology of Martin Luther and the Roman Catholic Church during the Protestant Reformation.

[25]

QUESTION SEVEN

Critically examine the distinct political character of French Protestantism in the 16th century.

[25]

QUESTION EIGHT

Clearly demonstrate how the Puritan Movement was inspired by politics in England in the 16th century.

[25]

QUESTION NINE

Assess the work and achievements of the Council of Trent in its response to the challenges posed by the Protestant Reformation.

[25]

QUESTION TEN

Identify the correlation between John Calvin's teaching on predestination and the rise of capitalism. What impact did Calvin's teaching have on Christianity in the later centuries?

[25]

QUESTION ELEVEN

Write short notes on the significance of the following to the development of Christian thought:

- a. The Catholic missionaries of the sixteenth century
- b. The Vatican Council 1
- c. The Geneva Theocracy

[25]

QUESTION TWELVE

Critically analyze the implications of Martin Luther's views on family and marriage to contemporary Christianity.

[25]

THE END
