

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
&
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TRS 201 SUPPLEMENTARY EXAM, JULY 2011

TITLE OF PAPER : Studies in the Old Testament II
COURSE CODE : TRS 201
DURATION : 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. Answer **four (4)** questions in all.
2. Answer two questions from each section.
3. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.

All questions are worth 25 marks.

DOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GRANTS YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO

TRS 201 (S) Studies in the Old Testament II, July 2011

Question 1

Describe the distinctive Jewish understanding of prophecy. [25]

Question 2

Compare and contrast the contexts in which Isaiah of Jerusalem and Micah exercised their prophetic ministry. [25]

Question 3

Discuss the symbolism used in Ezekiel and how it fits in with the intended messages the prophet delivered.

Question 4

Haggai promises that the rebuilt Temple is going to be more magnificent than the Solomon Temple. Historically, this did not turn out to be the case. How then would you assess the value of Haggai's message in light of the fact that it did not materialise. [25]

Question 5

Discuss the canonical function of Lamentations.

Question 6

Critique the various ways in which Song of Songs has been interpreted. [25]

Question 7

Comment on the contents of the imprecatory Psalms. [25]

Question 8

Analyse Proverbs 31: 10-31 from a socio-historical perspective. [25]

Question 9

Explain the Jewish attitudes reflected in the books of Ruth, Esther and Jonah. [25]

Question 10

Conduct a comparative analysis of Jewish prophecy and apocalypse. [25]

TRIS 201 Supplementary Exam , July 2011: Attachment for Question 8

Proverbs 31:10-31

- ¹⁰ A capable wife who can find?
She is far more precious than jewels.
- ¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her,
and he will have no lack of gain.
- ¹² She does him good, and not harm,
all the days of her life.
- ¹³ She seeks wool and flax,
and works with willing hands.
- ¹⁴ She is like the ships of the merchant,
she brings her food from far away.
- ¹⁵ She rises while it is still night
and provides food for her household
and tasks for her servant-girls.
- ¹⁶ She considers a field and buys it;
with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard.
- ¹⁷ She girds herself with strength,
and makes her arms strong.
- ¹⁸ She perceives that her merchandise is profitable.
Her lamp does not go out at night.
- ¹⁹ She puts her hands to the distaff,
and her hands hold the spindle.
- ²⁰ She opens her hand to the poor,
and reaches out her hands to the needy.
- ²¹ She is not afraid for her household when it snows,
for all her household are clothed in crimson.
- ²² She makes herself coverings;
her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- ²³ Her husband is known in the city gates,
taking his seat among the elders of the land.
- ²⁴ She makes linen garments and sells them;
she supplies the merchant with sashes.
- ²⁵ Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.
- ²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- ²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- ²⁸ Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband too, and he praises her:
- ²⁹ 'Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.'
- ³⁰ Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

³¹ Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.