

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
BED III/BA HUMANITIES III/ IDE BA HUMANITIES III  
FINAL EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2011

COURSE TITLE : A STUDY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT 1

COURSE CODE : TRS 301

DURATION : THREE (3) HRS

INSTRUCTIONS :

- a. Choose and answer four (4) questions.
- b. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.
- c. All questions carry equal marks.

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PERMISSION TO DO SO**

**TRS 301/ IDE 301 Main Exam (M) December 2011**

1. Write detailed notes on either textual criticism or redaction criticism showing how any one of the methods helps you understand the making of the New Testament. [25]
2. Comment on the following passage, paying special attention to the honour-shame model. [25]

**27.** Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the praetorium, and they gathered the whole battalion before him. **28** And they stripped him and put a scarlet robe upon him, **29** and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on his head, and put a reed in his right hand. And kneeling before him they mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" **30** And they spat upon him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. **31** And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, and put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him.

3. Who wrote the Gospel of Luke and for what reasons? [25]
4. Define the "Synoptic Problem" and explicate ways in which biblical scholars have attempted to "solve" this puzzle. [25]
5. Do you think that Luke is a trustworthy writer? Use examples from the Gospel and Acts to support your answer. [25]
6. Identify some of the distinctive features in which John's Gospel is different from the Synoptics. [25]
7. Do you think the ethics of Jesus are livable? Use examples from your lived experiences to reinforce your views. [25]
8. What effect did the discovery of the Gospel of Judas have on your reading and understanding of the Gospel tradition? [25]

**END OF PAPER**