



UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, DECEMBER 2011

TITLE OF PAPER : SELECT THEMES IN THE HISTORY OF
CHRISTIAN THOUGHT 1

COURSE CODE : TRS 313/IDE-TRS 313

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

MARKS : 75

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. CHOOSE AND ANSWER ANY THREE (3) QUESTIONS.**
- 2. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.**
- 3. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A FRESH PAGE.**
- 4. CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CLARITY, ACCURACY AND GOOD THEOLOGICAL INSIGHT.**

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



QUESTION ONE

Explain the Hellenization policy. How did it influence early Jewish thought?

[25]

QUESTION TWO

Describe how Roman persecution shaped the Christian Church in the first three centuries. Were the persecutions of Christians by various Emperors justifiable? Discuss.

[25]

QUESTION THREE

Critically assess the fourth century religious policy of Constantine the Great. What do you think were the long term effects of this policy?

[25]

QUESTION FOUR

Discuss the significance of the Arian controversy for the development of Christian doctrine.

[25]

QUESTION FIVE

Define monasticism. Do the ideals of an ascetic life have any relevance in the contemporary Christian Church?

[25]



QUESTION SIX

"...the main spring of the crusades was religious devotion."

To what extent do you agree with this observation? Comment on the successes and failures of the crusades.

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