

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
BA HUMANITIES III/ IDE BA HUMANITIES III  
SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION JULY 2013

COURSE TITLE : STUDIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT I

COURSE CODE : TRS 301

DURATION : TWO (2) HRS

INSTRUCTIONS :

- a. Choose and answer three (3) questions only.
- b. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.
- c. All questions carry equal marks.

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PERMISSION TO DO SO**

1. Write exegetical comments on the following passage:

1 They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Ger'asenes. 2 And when he had come out of the boat, there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, 3 who lived among the tombs; and no one could bind him any more, even with a chain; 4 for he had often been bound with fetters and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the fetters he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. 5 Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out, and bruising himself with stones. 6 And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped him; 7 and crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." 8 For he had said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" 9 And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." 10 And he begged him eagerly not to send them out of the country. 11 Now a great herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; 12 and they begged him, "Send us to the swine, let us enter them." 13 So he gave them leave. And the unclean spirits came out, and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea. 14 The herdsmen fled, and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. 15 And they came to Jesus, and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. 16 And those who had seen it told what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine. 17 And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their neighborhood. 18 And as he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 But he refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decap'olis how much Jesus had done for him; and all men marveled.

2. Do you think the four documentary hypothesis provides a satisfactory solution to the synoptic problem? [20]
3. Discuss reasons why the Gospel of Mark was written. [20]
4. "The Acts of the Apostles should rightly be captioned the Acts of the Holy Spirit". To what extent do you agree with this assertion? [20]
5. In what ways is the prologue of John a summary of the themes that are developed in later chapters? [20]
6. Do you think form redaction criticism is of any intellectual benefit in your redating of the gospel tradition? Critically discuss. [20]