

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES
SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, JULY 2013

TITLE OF PAPER: STUDIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT I
COURSE CODE: TRS 301
TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. CHOOSE AND ANSWER THREE (3) QUESTIONS ONLY.
2. WRITE IN CLEAR, GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT SENTENCES.
3. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY EQUAL MARKS.

**DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GRANTS YOU
PERMISSION TO DO SO.**

TRS 301/ IDE TRS 301 Exam (S) July 2013

1. Discuss Mark's understanding of the term gospel. How does this understanding compare with other writings in the New Testament?
2. Comment on points of interest or difficulty on any ONE of the following passages.

EITHER

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. **32** As they went out, they came upon a man of Cyre'ne, Simon by name; this man they compelled to carry his cross. **33** And when they came to a place called Gol'gotha (which means the place of a skull), **34** they offered him wine to drink, mingled with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. **35** And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots; **36** then they sat down and kept watch over him there. **37** And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus the King of the Jews." **38** Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. **39** And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads **40** and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." **41** So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, **42** "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. **43** He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him; for he said, 'I am the Son of God.'" **44** And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way.

OR

45 Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. **46** And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, la'ma sabach-tha'ni?" that is, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" **47** And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "This man is calling Eli'jah." **48** And one of them at once ran and took a sponge, filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink. **49** But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Eli'jah will come to save him." **50** And Jesus cried again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. **51** And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split; **52** the tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, **53** and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.

3. What were the concerns of the community of Luke? Support your answer with excellent examples from the gospel itself.
4. Using examples from at least one gospel, discuss Jesus' attitude towards the Jewish Law.
5. Discuss the problems behind the authorship of the Gospel of John.
6. When and why was the Acts of the Apostles written? Support your views with relevant examples.