UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2013

TITLE OF PAPER : SELECT THEMES IN THE HISTORY OF

CHRISTIAN THOUGHT 11

COURSE CODE : TRS 314/IDE-TRS 314

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

"Usually John Wycliffe (1324-1384) and John Hus (1369-1414) are regarded as heralds of the dawn" (Walt 1984:30).

With reference to the Sixteenth Century Protestant Reformation explain the meaning of the above assertion.

[25]

QUESTION TWO

Critically evaluate the importance of the Renaissance in the development of the Sixteenth Century Protestant Reformation.

[25]

QUESTION THREE

"Unless I am convinced by Scripture and plain reason... my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise." (Martin Luther, Diet of Worms 1521)

Citing examples from his theological tradition explain the meaning of Martin Luther's declaration during his trial at the Diet of Worms Assembly.

[25]

QUESTION FOUR

Considering the religious landscape in the Kingdom of Swaziland, what do you think would be the message of the Sixteenth Century Protestant reformers to present-day Christians?

[25]

QUESTION FIVE

Critically evaluate the view that Calvinism had some remarkable influence to political predicaments in South Africa during Apartheid.

[25]

QUESTION SIX

Briefly comment on the significance of the following on the development of Christian thought:

- a. The 1559 Elizabethan Settlement Policy
- b. The 1545 Council of Trent
- c. 1910 World Missionary Conference

[25]

THE END