

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES
BA HUMANITIES IV/ IDE BA HUMANITIES IV
FINAL EXAMINATION DECEMBER 2012

COURSE TITLE : GOSPEL TRADITION I

COURSE CODE : TRS 402

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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TRS 402/ IDE TRS 402 Exam (M) December 2012

1. “Indeed not only do these Gospels tell many of the same stories, they often do so using the same words. This phenomenon is virtually inexplicable unless the stories are derived from a common literary source” (Ehrman, 2008: 93).
 - (a) How does the four documentary hypothesis account for the interrelationships among the synoptic gospels?
 - (b) Identify those features in the synoptic gospels which support the priority of Mark.
2. EITHER Discuss the meaning and significance of (a) the baptism
Or (b) the Transfiguration of Jesus.
3. Comment on any TWO of the following pericopes:
 - (a) The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-36).
 - (b) The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32).
 - (c) The Parable of the Servants in the Vineyard (Matthew 20:1-15).
 - (d) The Parable of the Dragnet (Matthew 13:47-50).
4. Using examples from the gospel tradition, write detailed explanatory notes on any TWO of the following forms:
 - (a) Apophthegms.
 - (b) Tales.
 - (c) Legends.
 - (d) Parables.
5. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the criteria of authenticity. Support your answer with relevant examples.
6. Below are parallel passages from the synoptic gospels.
 - (a) Identify which of them is Matthew and indicate which characteristics indicate that.
 - (b) Identify which of them is Mark and indicate which characteristics indicate that.

(c) Identify which of them is Luke and indicate which characteristics indicate that.

A	B	C
<p>And he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. And behold, there rose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, "Save, Lord; we are perishing."</p> <p>And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O men of little faith?" Then he arose and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. And the men marvelled, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and sea obey him?"</p>	<p>One day he got into the boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they set out, and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a storm of wind came down on the lake, and they were filling with water, and were in danger. And they went and woke him up saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; and they ceased, and there was calm. He said to them, "Where is your faith?" And they were afraid, and they marvelled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even wind and water, and they obey him."</p>	<p>On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And the other boats were with them. And a great storm of wind arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he was in the stern, asleep on a cushion; and they woke him and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care if we perish?" And he woke and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" And they were filled with awe, and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey him?"</p>