

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
&  
FACULTY OF EDUCATION  
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**

**TRS 100 SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, JULY 2016**

**TITLE OF PAPER : Introduction to Biblical Studies  
COURSE CODE : TRS 100  
DURATION : 2 Hours**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Choose and answer three (3) questions in all.
2. Choose at least one question from each section.
3. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.
4. The paper consists of five (5) printed pages including the cover page.
5. All questions carry equal marks.

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

**SECTION A**

**Question 1**

Identify and discuss the chief characteristics of the Priestly and Yahwist source narratives in the creation stories of Genesis 1:1 – 2: 4(a) and 2:4(b)-25. [20]

**Question 2**

Explore ways in which the Bible has influence English language and culture. Illustrate your answer with excellent examples. [20]

**Question 3**

From the verses given below, explain why Amos delivered oracles against foreign nations. [20]

**Judgment on Israel's Neighbors (Amos 1: 3 -15)**

<sup>3</sup> Thus says the LORD:

“For three transgressions of Damascus,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;<sup>[b]</sup>  
because they have threshed Gilead  
with threshing sledges of iron.

<sup>4</sup> So I will send a fire upon the house of Haz’ael,  
and it shall devour the strongholds of Ben-ha’dad.

<sup>5</sup> I will break the bar of Damascus,  
and cut off the inhabitants from the Valley of Aven,<sup>[c]</sup>  
and him that holds the scepter from Beth-eden;  
and the people of Syria shall go into exile to Kir,”  
says the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> Thus says the LORD:

“For three transgressions of Gaza,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;<sup>[d]</sup>  
because they carried into exile a whole people  
to deliver them up to Edom.

<sup>7</sup> So I will send a fire upon the wall of Gaza,  
and it shall devour her strongholds.

<sup>8</sup> I will cut off the inhabitants from Ashdod,  
and him that holds the scepter from Ash'kelon;  
I will turn my hand against Ekron;  
and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish,"  
says the Lord GOD.

<sup>9</sup> Thus says the LORD:

"For three transgressions of Tyre,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;<sup>[e]</sup>  
because they delivered up a whole people to Edom,  
and did not remember the covenant of brotherhood.

<sup>10</sup> So I will send a fire upon the wall of Tyre,  
and it shall devour her strongholds."

<sup>11</sup> Thus says the LORD:

"For three transgressions of Edom,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;<sup>[f]</sup>  
because he pursued his brother with the sword,  
and cast off all pity,  
and his anger tore perpetually,  
and he kept his wrath<sup>[g]</sup> for ever.

<sup>12</sup> So I will send a fire upon Teman,  
and it shall devour the strongholds of Bozrah."

<sup>13</sup> Thus says the LORD:

"For three transgressions of the Ammonites,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment;<sup>[h]</sup>  
because they have ripped up women with child in Gilead,  
that they might enlarge their border.

<sup>14</sup> So I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah,  
and it shall devour her strongholds,  
with shouting in the day of battle,  
with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind;

<sup>15</sup> and their king shall go into exile,  
he and his princes together,"  
says the LORD

#### **Question 4**

In what ways does the prophet Hosea demonstrate God's undying love for sinful Israel?  
[20]

## **SECTION B**

### **Question 5**

Discuss reasons behind the writing of the Gospel of Luke as summarised in the preface below. [20]

<sup>1</sup> Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup> just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, <sup>3</sup> I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first,<sup>[a]</sup> to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

### **Question 6**

Identify and discuss three literary forms in New Testament writings you have studied in this course. [20]

### **Question 7**

From the passage given below, explain ways in which the author of Hebrews demonstrates the superiority of Christ over the old covenant. [20]

Hebrews 7:26-8:13

<sup>27</sup> Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. <sup>28</sup> For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.

<sup>1</sup> The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, <sup>2</sup> and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the Lord, not by man.

<sup>3</sup> Every high priest is appointed to offer both gifts and sacrifices, and so it was necessary for this one also to have something to offer. <sup>4</sup> If he were on earth, he would not be a priest, for there are already men who offer the gifts prescribed by the law. <sup>5</sup> They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain." <sup>6</sup> But the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to

theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, and it is founded on better promises.

<sup>7</sup>For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. <sup>8</sup>But God found fault with the people and said:

"The time is coming, declares the Lord,  
when I will make a new covenant  
with the house of Israel  
and with the house of Judah.

<sup>9</sup>It will not be like the covenant  
I made with their forefathers  
when I took them by the hand  
to lead them out of Egypt,  
because they did not remain faithful to my covenant,  
and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.

<sup>10</sup>This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel  
after that time, declares the Lord.

I will put my laws in their minds  
and write them on their hearts.  
I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.

<sup>11</sup>No longer will a man teach his neighbor,  
or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,'  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest.

<sup>12</sup>For I will forgive their wickedness  
and will remember their sins no more."

<sup>13</sup>By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and aging will soon disappear.

New International Version

The parable of the unmerciful (Matthew 18: 21 -25, NIV)

### **Question 8**

Discuss futurist views in the interpretation of Revelation and, to what extent do you agree with this interpretative paradigm? [20]