

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, JULY 2018

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 three (3) 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.

TRS 100 Introduction to Biblical Studies, (S) July 2018

SECTION A

Question 1

Identify and discuss the main characteristics of the Elohist source. Use relevant examples to support your answer. [20]

Question 2

Give a concise overview of the New Testament, discussing its major divisions and key developments in the life of the early church. [20]

Question 3

Describe life of prophets as mirrored in their literary works. Use at least two books to support your position. [20]

Question 4

Using specific passages from the books you have studied in the course, compare the prophet Amos and Hosea in their general characteristics. [20]

SECTION B

Question 5

Why does it make more sense to think that Matthew and Luke had the Gospel of Mark at their disposal? [20]

Question 6

Explain why the authenticity of Paul's Letter to the Galatians is generally accepted. Give examples from the primary text to support your views. [20]

Question 7

What do we know of the circumstances surrounding the writing of Paul's Letter to the Philippians? Cite specific examples to support your answer. [20]

Question 8

Write a critical commentary on the following extract from James 5:13 -20. [20]

¹³ Is any one among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; ¹⁵ and the prayer of faith will save the sick man, and the Lord will raise him up; and if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man has great power in its effects. ¹⁷ Eli'jah was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth its fruit.

¹⁹ My brethren, if any one among you wanders from the truth and some one brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.