UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND FACULTY OF HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MAIN EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 2017

TITLE OF PAPER: Studies in the New Testament I

COURSE CODE

: TRS 301

DURATION

: 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Choose and answer three (3) questions in all.

2. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.

3. The paper consists of three (3) printed pages including the cover page.

4. All questions carry equal marks.

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

TRS 301 Studies in the New Testament I, (M) December 2017

Question 1

Explain, in detail, some polemical and apologetic concerns of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. [20]

à

Question 2

Why do biblical scholars think that there is, undoubtedly, a documentary interrelationship between and among the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke? [20]

Question 3

Making references to Jesus, his family and the disciples, explain ways in which Luke changes the portrayal of these characters in his gospel. [20]

Question 4

In what ways does the writer of the Fourth Gospel presents Jesus of Nazareth as the true revelation of God? Use specific passages to support your answer. [20]

Question 5

From selected speeches in the Acts of the Apostles, identify and analyse the key features of early Christian kerygma. [20]

Question 6

Attempt a critical reading on the following passage. [20]

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. ^{[a] 55} But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died. ^[b] (Acts 7:45-60, NRSV)