

**UNIVERSITY OF ESWATINI  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION**

**MAIN EXAMINATION, NOVEMBER 2019**

**TITLE OF PAPER : Gospel Tradition I  
COURSE CODE : TRS 402  
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 four (4) 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 402 Gospel Tradition I, (M) November 2019

Question 1

To what extent do you agree with the thinking that the gospels are a product of both oral and written sources? [20]

Question 2

With reference to evidence in the primary text, what could be the most probable date of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth? [20]

Question 3

What have to say of Matthew's assertion that "... in the fourth watch of the night he [Jesus] came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out for fear." [20]

Question 4

Is there a relationship between the historical Jesus and the Jesus preached in the gospels? [20]

Question 5

Explain the basis on which Ehrman (2008:209) strongly posits that "it might be possible for Jesus and Judas to be twins." [20]

Question 6

Attempt a critical reading of the pericopae provided taken from Matthew 10:1-15. [20]

10 And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity.<sup>2</sup> The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zeb'edee, and John his brother;<sup>3</sup> Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus,<sup>[a]</sup><sup>4</sup> Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out, charging them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans,<sup>6</sup> but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.<sup>7</sup> And preach as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'<sup>8</sup> Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying, give without pay.<sup>9</sup> Take no gold, nor silver, nor copper in your belts,<sup>10</sup> no bag for your journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor a staff; for the laborer deserves his food.

<sup>11</sup> And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it, and stay with him until you depart. <sup>12</sup> As you enter the house, salute it. <sup>13</sup> And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup> And if any one will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup> Truly, I say to you, it shall be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomor'rah than for that town.