

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

TRS 100 MAIN EXAMINATION, DECEMBER 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. Answer at least one question from each section.
3. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.
4. All questions carry equal marks.

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

SECTION A

Question 1

"Then Cain went away from the presence of The Lord, and dwelt in the land of Nod, east of Eden. Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch; and he built a city, and called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch" (Genesis 4:16-17, RSV). In your view, where did Cain's wife come from and who did he actually marry? [20]

Question 2

Explain ways in which source criticism has contributed to your understanding concerning the composition of the Pentateuch. [20]

Question 3

Discuss thematic continuities between the "Old" and New Testaments. Support your response with relevant examples. [20]

Question 4

Discuss the central message of EITHER (a) Jeremiah the prophet OR (b) post-exilic Isaiah. [20]

SECTION B

Question 5

"True Christians should not dare set foot at the Muslim slaughtering ceremony." (Times of Swaziland, 9 September 2016). What is your position on this thinking? Support your views with at least one book you have studied in this course.

Question 6

Identify and discuss key arguments that Paul reaffirms in his Letter to the Romans pertaining to his gospel of free grace.

Question 7

Discuss problems behind the authorship of EITHER (a) the Second Letter of Peter OR (b) the Apocalypse of John.

Question 8

Attempt a comparative analysis of the two passages provided below. [20]

Mark 10:17 -27	Matthew 19:16-30
<p data-bbox="124 443 309 472">The Rich Man</p> <p data-bbox="124 510 635 1227">¹⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰ He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” ²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money^[a] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” ²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.</p> <p data-bbox="124 1265 635 1839">²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” ²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is^[b] to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another,^[c] “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”</p>	<p data-bbox="659 443 930 472">The Rich Young Man</p> <p data-bbox="659 510 1406 1048">¹⁶ Then someone came to him and said, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” ¹⁷ And he said to him, “Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments.” ¹⁸ He said to him, “Which ones?” And Jesus said, “You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; ¹⁹ Honor your father and mother; also, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁰ The young man said to him, “I have kept all these;^[a] what do I still lack?” ²¹ Jesus said to him, “If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money^[b] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” ²² When the young man heard this word, he went away grieving, for he had many possessions.</p> <p data-bbox="659 1086 1406 1368">²³ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Truly I tell you, it will be hard for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. ²⁴ Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁵ When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astounded and said, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁶ But Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible.”</p> <p data-bbox="659 1406 1406 1765">²⁷ Then Peter said in reply, “Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?” ²⁸ Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹ And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name’s sake, will receive a hundredfold,^[a] and will inherit eternal life. ³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.</p>