

MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS

DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA & EUROPE

2017 DIOCESAN EXAMINATION

Grade 9

TIME 90 MINUTES

MAXIMUM POINTS 100

Section 1. Multiple choice- Circle the most appropriate response for the following questions/statements (25 x 1 pt. =25 points)

1. Abram was ----- years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael

a.90 b. 85 c. 86 9. 100

Ans C L7(p27)

2. Why did Abraham and his children have to get circumcised?

a. It was done for medical reasons

b. It was done as a sign as a covenant between God and Abraham and his descendants

c. Sarah wanted Abraham to have his descendants circumcised.

d. Abraham knew that God had written in the Law as a commandment to be followed.

Ans C. L9 p27

3. The angel of the lord met Hagar as she was running away from Sarai by a spring on the way to -----

a. Sidon b. Shur c.Bered d.Egypt

Ans B L7p27

4. Who was the prophet God sent to David to warn him of the dire consequences of his sins of adultery and murder?

a. Nathan b.Nathaniel c. Amos d.Jeremiah

Ans A L8p32

5. In the spring of the year the time when kings go out to battle David sent ----- with his officers and all Israel with him.

A. Abishek b. Jonathan c. Joab d. Uriah

Ans C. L 8 P32

6. David became the king at the age of ----- and ruled for ----- years.

A.20 and 50 years B.20 and 40 years C.25 and 40 years D.30 and 40 years.

Ans D L8 P34

7. The Persian King Ahasuerus was displeased with the behavior of queen -----

a. Abigail b .Esther c.Vasthi d.Bathsheba

Ans C L14 p 60

8. ----- was a musician in David's house

a.Jonah b.Ethan c .Ahab d .Samuel

Ans b. L12 P52.

9. The Jewish name of ----- was Hadassah which means myrtle

a. Esther B .Mordechai c .Naomi d .Ruth

Ans a. L14 P60

10. Which of the following classes of the Mosaic law represents the part of the Law that deals with righteous living both with God and one's fellow neighbor/being and community?

A. Moral Law B. Religious Life C. Civil Life D. Work Life

11. As Joshua had commanded the people the ----- priests carrying the ----- trumpets of ram's horns before the Lord went forward blowing the trumpets.

A.seven and nine B seven and six C. Five and seven D. Seven and seven

Ans D.L13 P55

12. The word Isaiah means

A .The Lord is salvation b. God is with us c. The peace maker d . Weeping prophet

Ans a.L15 P63

13. There are ----- chapters in the book of Isaiah and ----- books in the Bible

a. 39 and 66 b. 66 and 66 c .66 and 39 d. 27 and 66

Ans b.L15 P 63

14. Who is known as the apostle to the Gentiles?

a. Stephen b. Timothy c. Paul d. Barnabas

Ans C. L16 p69

15. -----was very proud of his rich heritage. He was circumcised on the eighth day, a Hebrew and belonged to the tribe of -----

a. David, Benjamin

b. Stephen, David

c. Saul, Benjamin

D. Saul, David

Ans C L16 p67

16. Jesus told Nicodemus, "The _____ blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the _____."

A. Spirit, Fire

B. Wind, Spirit

C. Spirit, God

D. Fire, Spirit

Ans d.L17 P74

17. Who wrote the book of Acts of the Apostles?

a. Luke

b. James

c. John

d. Paul

Ans A L24 P 100

18. In the parable of the Good Samaritan we learn that he gave the most valuable of his resources to take care of the man in need, which was his

a. money

B. oil and wine

C. time

d. clothes

Ans C Time L21 P 89

19. In Mathew 5:17 Jesus says that he has come not to abolish the law but to ----- it

- a.Follow
- b.Fulfil
- C Change
- d .transform

Ans B L20 P85.

20. In Acts Chapter 5, we learn about a couple who sell a piece of property with the intention of giving the proceeds to the Church. The woman was Saphira whose name means

- A. Beautiful
- B. Princess
- C Faithful
- D. Kind

Ans A.L18 P 78

21. The first apostle, indeed the first person ever to address Jesus as God was-----

- a. Simon Peter
- B .Saul
- c. James
- d. Thomas

Ans D L23 P 97

22. On the way to his crucifixion, Jesus passed a man from Cyrene named ----- who was compelled to carry Jesus's cross

- a.Joseph
- b.Simon
- c.Rufus
- d.John

Ans D L22 p93

23. The council or Sanhedrin s it was known in Hebrew was an assembly of leaders appointed to serve as

- a. Policemen
- B. teachers of law
- c. Judges
- d .peacemakers

Ans C.L25 P104

24. Jesus told the disciples after His resurrection that once they receive the power through Holy Spirit

“You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all ----- and ----- and to the ends of the earth

- A .Judea and Rome
- b. Rome and Corinth
- c. Samaria and Nazareth
- d. Judea and Samaria

Ans D. L24 P 99

25. Why did Jesus tell his followers to wait in Jerusalem before going to the ends of the earth to share his message?

- A. Jesus was afraid that the disciples might go the wrong way before getting instructions
- B. Jesus wanted his disciples to wait for the promise of the Father, the Holy Spirit
- C. Jesus was going to come back in the flesh in a few days to help them travel to share the good news.
- D. Jesus knew Peter would betray him again if the disciples went out immediately

ANS B. L 24 P. 99

Section 2. Short answers. Answer any 4 of the following questions. Answers shall be brief in 3-4 sentences and to the point. Points 20 (4x 5) 5 points each.

1. Who was Haman? (1) What made him furious with Mordecai (2) and what did he plan as a result? (2)

Ans. L14 p 60

Haman was a prince under king Ahasuerus who enjoyed some special privileges including one, where people would have to bow down as he passed by. Mordecai being a Jew would not bow to anyone except God and thus did not bow down to Haman as he passed by. This infuriated Haman who took it not only as a personal insult but also as a crime against the entire Persian Kingdom.

Haman conspired with his wife and devised a plan and forced the king to issue an edict to kill all the Jews on a single day 11 months later.

2. Who wrote Psalms 89? (1)

What is the meaning of the word maskil? (1)

What were the promises God made to David? (3)

Ans L12 p53

Ethan wrote Psalms 89. Maskel means a psalm that teaches us something.

God's promises. (3)

1. He would have a place of greatness 2.His offspring would succeed him 3.His kingdom will be established forever.

3. What does it mean to be born again and why was so important to be born again according to Jesus? (2) What examples show that Nicodemus respected Jesus (2?) Which Old Testament reference did Jesus use to explain the eventual death and resurrection? (1)

Ans L17 P77

- a. Born of the spirit. One will look the same but will be a changed person, new in Christ. Without being born again, one can't enter the kingdom of God.
- b. Addresses Jesus as Rabbi 2 States that Jesus is from God 3.Addressed Jesus with respect and humility
- c. Numbers 21:9. Just as Moses lifted up the serpent, Jesus the son of man would also have to be lifted up.

4.

- a. Who were the 12 disciples of Jesus? (3)
- b. List the professions of any 3 (1)
- c. Which disciples did Jesus refer to the "sons of Thunder?"(1)

Ans L10 p 44

Peter, Andrew, James and John, Philip, Nathaniel and Mathew. Thomas, James son of Alpheus, Judas (Thaddeus), Simon and Judas Iscariot.

Andrew- Fisherman

Mathew – Tax collector

Peter- Fisherman.

John and James.- sons of Thunder

5. To whom did Jesus tell the parable of the Good Samaritan and why? (2 points) Briefly explain how the story of the Good Samaritan explains how we should love our neighbor? (3 points)

One day a lawyer asked Jesus how to obtain eternal life. Jesus asked him what was written in the law and the lawyer said that the greatest commandments were to love God and love one's neighbor. But the lawyer wanted to justify himself and asked Jesus who his neighbor was. Jesus told him the Good Samaritan accordingly. The story of the Good Samaritan describes the story of a man who was left for dead after being attacked by robbers. After a priest and Levite who represented leaders in the Jewish community passed him by, a Samaritan had compassion on the man on the road. Jews did not like Samaritans but yet this man had compassion on the victim. The story of the Good Samaritan teaches us that we ought to be a neighbor to anyone around us regardless of their past.

Lesson 21 p. 89-90

Section 3. Memory verses . Complete any 5 of the following memory verses as recorded in NRSV Version. 5 x 5 points total 25 points

Ans.

1.L13 p57

But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

2 L21 P91

He answered, "You shall love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself" "Luke 10:27.

3. L8 P36

David said to Nathan "I have sinned against the Lord. Nathan said to David "Now the Lord has put away your sin. You shall not die."

4. L25 P 106)

As they left the council they rejoiced that they were considered worthy to suffer dishonor for the sake of the name .and every day in the temple and at home they did not cease to teach and proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.

5.L6 p26

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision." Do not be afraid Abram. I am your shield. Your reward shall be very great. "

6. L16 p.71

Not everyone who says to me “Lord, will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only one who does the will of my Father in heaven.”

Section 4 Mar Thoma church: Our foundation and vision. Circle the most appropriate answer for the following question/statement. (10 x 1 point = total 10 points)

1. By taking the crooked (Coonan) cross oath, the Malabar church
- Accepted the responsibility to lead every crooked person to Christ
 - Asserted its freedom and regained its autonomous nature
 - Decided to remain with the Catholic Church
 - Accepted the basic Roman practices and doctrine.

Ans B P 192.

2. The Royal court’s decision of 1889 resulted in
- Crooked Cross oath
 - Separation of Indian Church from Catholic Church
 - Formation of Jacobite Church under the patriarch of Antioch and Mar Thoma Church
 - Joining with the Anglican Church

Ans C p 195

3. After how many months does the Church accounts have to be presented to the church Executive committee?

A .4 b 6 c 3 d 12

Ans C 3 months P 202

4. Which of the following is NOT one of the reforms of Abraham Malpan?
- He translated the liturgy into local language
 - He preached that salvation is through the grace of God
 - He canonized all the holy martyrs of India as saints of the church
 - All of the above are reforms made by Abraham Malpan

Ans C p 219.

5. The laity members make up ----- percent of the Sabha prathinidhi mandalam

A 35 b 45 c 55 d 65

Ans D P 201

6. What does the priest's vestment represent?

- a. Throne of God
- b. Fight against the power of darkness
- c. Light of the world
- d. priestly order

Ans B P 199

7. The St. Thomas Christian's of Kerala kept close association with the eastern churches and conduct worship in ----- language.

- a. Aramaic b. Italian c. Syrian D Greek

Ans C P 210

8. The function of the Thaksa Committee was to

- a. Oversee the worship patterns in Churches
- b. Revise the communion service book
- c. Litigate judicial matters of the church
- d. Publish Christian books

Ans B. P 211

9. *All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." 2 Timothy 3:16*

²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. 2 Peter 1:20-21.

What is the significance of these two verses with respect to the Bible?

- a. These two verses indicate that human will is responsible for the prophecies of scripture
- b. These two verses imply that the Bible or scripture is an authoritative piece of literature since it is inspired by God.

- c. All scripture and prophecies are limited to human interpretation since we use scripture for teaching and training.
- d. None of the above

Ans C. Page 207

10. Which of these three individuals was not part of the Kottayam Trio?
- A. Winston Churchill
 - B. Benjamin Bailey
 - C. Henry Baker
 - D. Joseph Fenn

Ans A Winston Churchill, p. 193

Section 5. Mar Thoma Church history Short answer. Answer one of the following questions. Answer shall be brief and to the point (5 Points)

1. Describe the functional set up of the Mar Thoma Church's dioceses and parishes, mentioning the roles of the Diocesan Bishop, the vicars and elected members of the parish laity.

Ans P 192-193

1. For efficient functioning the church is divided into dioceses, which are divided into regions, centers and parishes.
2. Each diocese is under a diocesan Bishop
3. The Diocesan assembly and the diocesan council take decisions and implement them as and when needed for the diocese.
4. The diocesan assembly is composed of all clergies in the diocese as well as elected representatives from each church. The diocesan council is elected from the assembly.
5. Each parish is managed by a vicar.
6. For administrative purpose there is a general body and an executive committee in each church and the vicar is the president of both bodies.
7. Accounts are handled by trustees and audited by auditors elected by the general body
8. All decisions of the general body get implemented only after the approval of the diocesan Bishop.

2. Mar Thoma Church is an Eastern reformed Church with an eastern orthodox orientation. Briefly explain how and list any five of the eastern characteristics.

Ans Lesson 2 p 197.

Ancient Christianity has two forms namely eastern and western. Eastern Christianity found its identity in an oriental culture influenced by Judaic traditions. The Mar Thoma Church was developed in this oriental culture and hence retained eastern orthodoxy. It is oriental in worship.

When blended with western Christianity and many of its relevant aspects our church became an eastern reformed church

Characteristics

1. Worship 2. Liturgy 3. Symbols 4. Vestments 5. Altar 6. Candles 7. Incense 8. Symbolism 9. Gestures.

Section 6. Essay. Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay not exceeding 200 words. Essay shall have an introduction, body and conclusion. (Total 15 points)

1. Encountering Jesus personally can truly be a life-changing experience. Explain how encountering Jesus radically transformed Saul's life. In your response, start by describing Saul's past and his background and then explain what happened. What were the changes in his life? Do you think knowing Jesus personally is important? Why or why not?

Ans. L16 p.67-69

Saul was an extremely devout Jew from Tarsus who was a Pharisee from the tribe of Benjamin. He was a Roman citizen as well. He was a very knowledgeable person and had been trained under a man named Gamaliel. He was a strict follower of Judaism and hated Christians because he believed that they were leading people astray from the commandments of God and the Law of Moses. Saul could not believe Jesus' statement that Jesus was the way, the truth, and the life.

As a result, Saul began to persecute Christians left and right. He was present at the stoning of Stephen and imprisoned many Christians.

One day on his way to Damascus, there was a blinding light and the Lord Jesus appeared to Saul and asked him-Saul, Saul why do you persecute me? Saul was struck with Blindness and was told that God would instruct him on what he was to do. A prophet Ananias prayed over Saul shortly after and Saul was baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit. Saul then began to talk about Jesus was the Messiah and shared his faith with others. God called Saul his chosen vessel to bring the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles across the world.

Students can comment on what they feel about knowing Jesus at this point.

2. We often claim that we love God above everything else but it's only when we look within ourselves or have our hearts truly searched that we understand that maybe we are not selfless as we thought. Explain how Jesus proves this to be true in his encounter with the rich young man? What was the rich man searching for and how did Jesus approach him? What happened ultimately as a result? How do you think this applies to everyday life?

Ans Lesson 20 p. 85-86

One day a rich young ruler approached Jesus and asked Jesus what he would need to do eternal life. The rich young man appeared to have everything together since he appeared to ask a very sincere question and appeared to be very humble in approaching Jesus on his knees.

Jesus asked him in return if he kept the commandments such as “Do not steal, kill or commit adultery.” The young man replied he had kept these commandments since childhood. The young man felt that since he kept all the commandments everything was set for him to receive eternal life.

Jesus truly loved the young man and looking at him asked him to sell his possessions and give the money to the poor and then go and follow Jesus. The rich man was extremely grieved. He was willing to follow the 10 commandments as long as he did not need to sacrifice his wealth. His wealth was true source of happiness and through Jesus’ commandment the rich young man saw where his priorities lay. He had become extremely attached to his wealth and could not let it go.

God is not against us having wealth but he does not want anything else in our life to take his place. (Students can list things and pleasures that might take the place of God in their life.)