



Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
Trinity College Dublin

Ollscoil Átha Cliath | The University of Dublin

**Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Biblical Studies**

**Matriculation Examination**

**April 2023**

**BIBLICAL STUDIES**

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**WRITE YOUR CAO NUMBER ON THE FRONT COVER. WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE CORNER FLAP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE, FOLD IT OVER AND SEAL IT. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR CAO NUMBER WRITE YOUR NAME AND SEAL THE FLAP.**

**A Copy of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible is provided with this paper.**

**ANSWER FOUR QUESTIONS IN TOTAL: TWO MUST BE FROM SECTION A AND TWO MUST BE FROM SECTION B.**

## **SECTION A**

### **The Old Testament**

#### **YOU MUST ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A**

1. The destruction of Jerusalem, the deportation of its leaders, and the loss of the land in 586 BCE was a complete reversal of Israel's special Covenant status with God. How did the biblical writers interpret the events and what ways forward for Israel did they identify?
2. What problems face the historian who attempts to use the Deuteronomistic History as a source for reconstructing Israel's history of kingship?
- 3.

EITHER

The Book of Job challenges the Old Testament's core belief that God judges justly. Discuss.

OR

The God of the Book of Job is not only unjust, He lacks compassion. Discuss this statement.

4.

EITHER

According to Amos, Israel is no better than the nations and will be subjected to the same punishment. Discuss.

OR

What Amos fears more than anything is the reversal of order in Creation. Discuss.

6. How does the biblical account of the destruction of Israel's capital Samaria differ from accounts of the city's destruction in Assyrian sources? Explain why the perspectives are often so different.

## **SECTION B: THE NEW TESTAMENT**

### **YOU MUST ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION**

9.

EITHER

Jesus challenged so many aspects of the Jewish faith that he can hardly be described as a Jew at all. Do you agree with this statement?

OR

In your view, did Jesus intend to establish a completely new religion?

10. Discuss the impact of the destruction of the Jerusalem temple in 70 CE

11.

EITHER

Social and cultural conditions in Corinth meant that fundamental misunderstandings about the Eucharist were inevitable. Do you agree with this statement?

OR

What were the greatest threats faced by the new Christian leaders in the communities in Corinth?

12. Once the Jesus movement expanded beyond Judea and Galilee to non-Jewish territories, new problems arose. Discuss this statement in relation to Acts.

14.

EITHER

One of the most radical aspects of Jesus' mission was his inclusion of women. Discuss.

OR

Judaism before Jesus could be criticised for its lack of attention to social justice.  
Do you agree with this statement?

15. Discuss the function of miracles in Mark's Gospel.