

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

SEPTEMBER 2007 RE-SIT SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS

HPA4210 Patristic Themes: God and Man

Mon 3 September 2007

09.15 – 11.15

Answer TWO questions ONE from each section.

Section A

To choose **ANY ONE** question.

Either:

1. "*The Creator and Lord of the universe so disposed that all these things should be in peace and harmony, He who is benevolent towards all, and above all, towards all who take refuge in His goodness through our Lord Jesus Christ*" (First Letter of Pope St Clement of Rome to the Corinthians, 20,4). Discuss the major elements contained in this *pre-Nicene binary* formulation of the *Trinitarian* faith of the early Christians.

Or:

2. Discuss *any one* of the major differences of emphasis between the *Antiochene* and the *Alexandrine* theological visions.

Section B

To choose **ANY ONE** question.

Either:

1. "*In the final analysis, Gnosis is anthropology: man stands at the centre of Gnostic interests*" (G. Quispel, *Gnosis als Weltreligion*, Zürich 1951). Do you agree with this important analysis of the doctrine and practice of the entire Gnostic movement as reacted against by some of the Fathers of the Church and Early Christian Writers, for instance St Irenaeus of Lyons. Discuss.

Or:

2. Elaborate on each of these Augustinian formulas contained in his anthropological discussion, namely:
Interior – exterior
Imago Dei
Homo capax Dei