

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA  
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

JANUARY 2006 SESSION OF ASSESSMENTS

**SHG1000 Foundations of Theology**

**Sat 28 Jan 2006**

**09.00 – 12.00**

**SECTION A:**

**Answer ONE question from EACH section:**

1. What are the differences between the Hebrew Scriptures and the Christian Old Testament and how did the Hebrew Scripture emerge?
2. *Berit* is an important Old Testament word that has different meanings. Distinguish between God's *berit* with Abraham, with the Exodus generation and with David.
3. Give an overview of the legacy of prophets and sages in the Bible.

**SECTION B:**

4. "Jesus said: "Blessed are the solitary and elect, for you will find the *Kingdom For you are from it, and to it you will return*". Discuss in some detail the content of this text with reference to a particular trend of early Christian life and doctrine in the second century CE.
5. "*Again, while they dwell in their several city-states up and down the Empire, whether Greek or not, each according to his or her appointed lot and following the local way of life in the matter of food and clothing and whatever else, they reveal the wonderful and undeniably strange character of their citizenship*".
  - i) from which work is the text taken?
  - ii) who is the author of the text?
  - iii) in which particular context is the author writing?
  - iv) discuss some of the nuances underlying the text.
  - v) which is the point that the author wants to drive home to the readers?

6. *"We are but of yesterday, and already we have filled all your world: cities, islands, fortresses, towns, marketplaces, the camp itself, tribes, companies, the palace, the senate, the forum. We have left you nothing but your temples only!"*
- i) from which work is the text taken?
  - ii) who is the author of the text?
  - iii) in which particular context is the author writing?
  - iv) discuss some of the nuances underlying the text.
  - v) which is the point that the author wants to drive home to the readers?
7. Assess with some detail, the impact of the *Donatist Schism* in the daily life and worship of Christian north Africa in the Fourth century CE.
8. Describe in some detail, the *conversions* of Saint Augustine of Hippo.

### **SECTION C:**

9. Give an outline of the theology of one of the four canonical Gospels.
10. Show how in the passion narratives, Jesus appears as the suffering righteous one who goes to his death in a sovereign way.
11. The books of the Bible represent the written efforts of many different persons, widely separated in time. How is it that only these books found their place in this collection?