

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
FACULTY OF THEOLOGY
FINAL EXAMINATIONS – JUNE 2005
B.A. LEGAL & HUMANISTIC STUDIES COURSE

THL3030 PAPER I

Wednesday 15 June 2005

9.00a.m. – 12.00noon

Answer **three** questions.
Use a **SEPARATE** script for **each** question.

1. Either:
 - a) How are the sacred books classified in the Hebrew Scriptures and in the Christian Old Testament and what different concept of revelation lies behind the two divisions of the books?Or:
 - b) Write short notes on ANY TWO of the following topics:
 - (i) The characteristics of Christian martyrdom;
 - (ii) 2nd and 3rd century CE Apologetical literature;
 - (iii) Constantine the Great's conversion and aftermath;
 - (iv) Saint Augustine of Hippo's life and works.
2. What do we mean by biblical inspiration? What are the principles of interpretation of Scripture enunciated by *Dei Verbum*?
3. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* speaks about superstitions, the occult and satanism under the heading of Idolatry. Why? What are the practical pastoral implications of this in the Church's Deliverance Ministry?

4. Either:

a) How does the Bible look at womenfolk?

Or:

b) The New Testament presents us with the reality of different religious movements, for example, Pharisees, Sadducees, the Essenes of Qumran, etc... Present the history and belief, lifestyle and influence on the New Testament environment with regard to one of these movements.

5. The theology of salvation is bound up with the theology of religions. Write about the Christian perception of the salvific value of non-Christian religions with special reference to the document *Dominus Iesus*.

6. The Christian concept of salvation implies not only showing humanity the dangers but also the way to its own destiny. Similar views regarding the ideal of the human person are also held by the major schools of psychology. In what way is the Christian perspective similar to the Humanistic school of psychology and in what way does it differ?

7. Either:

a) The doctrines of sin and grace are basic to Christian anthropology. Explain.

Or:

b) Highlight the main elements of the 1992 document on eschatology, published by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

8. What is the role of human reason in accepting God's revelation and coming to knowledge of God?