

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER, MAY 2010

TITLE OF PAPER : LIBERATION THEOLOGY

COURSE CODE : IDE-T4P4

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

MARKS : 100

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. ANSWER ANY FOUR QUESTIONS**
- 3. EACH QUESTION CARRIES 25 MARKS.**
- 4. BEGIN EACH QUESTION ON A FRESH PAGE.**
- 5. PARTS OF A QUESTION MAY BE ANSWERED ON THE SAME PAGE, ALLOWING FOR A SPACE OF THREE LINES IN BETWEEN.**
- 6. CREDIT WILL BE GIVEN FOR CLARITY, ACCURACY AND GOOD COMMAND OF THE THEOLOGICAL LANGUAGE**

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION ONE

“...what praxis does is help Christians uncover and discover liberating dimensions that have always been present in the Christian concept” (Leonardo and Clodovis Boff).

Discuss this assertion with specific reference to some universal concepts that have been redefined in Liberation Theology.

[25]

QUESTION TWO

Give a theological critique to the arguments that equate Liberation Theology to Marxism.

[25]

QUESTION THREE

“...that Pope John Paul II and Cardinal Ratzinger of the Congregation of Doctrine of the Faith have condemned the theology of liberation is simply not true” (A. Nolan and R. Broderick, 1987:2)

How far do you agree with Nolan and Broderick? Discuss. Your answer should also take into consideration what some critics have identified as contradictions in the Vatican response to Liberation Theology.

[25]

QUESTION FOUR

Demonstrate how Liberation Theology represents the emergence of a new paradigm in contemporary Christianity, as opposed to Western Christianity.

[25]

QUESTION FIVE

Briefly discuss the significance of the following historical figures in the development of Liberation Theology:

1. Jurgen Moltmann
2. Gustavo Gutierrez
3. Malcolm X

[25]

QUESTION SIX

Discuss patriarchal Christianity as understood by feminist theologians. Considering your own national context, what are the repercussions of this type of Christianity on women development?

[25]

QUESTION SEVEN

“....the Kairos document is indeed a form of Liberation Theology.”

Comment on this observation in the light of the features that this document possesses.

[25]

QUESTION EIGHT

With reference to the three types of theologies (State Theology, Church Theology and Prophetic Theology), which one do you think the Church in the Kingdom of Swaziland has embraced? Substantiate your response with well thought-out theological arguments.

[25]

THE END