

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
&
INSTITUTE OF DISTANCE EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

TRS 302 SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION, JULY 2015

TITLE OF PAPER : Studies in the New Testament II
COURSE CODE : TRS 302
DURATION : 2 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Choose and answer three (3) questions in all.
2. Write in clear, grammatically correct sentences.
3. The paper consists of three (3) printed pages cover page included.
4. All questions carry equal marks.

DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR GRANTS YOU PERMISSION TO DO SO.

TRS 302 Studies in the New Testament II, (S) July 2015

Question 1

From the genuine letters, explore the fundamental theological convictions that shaped Paul's thought. [20]

Question 2

In what ways does Paul make an appeal to the Law to argue for his gospel of justification through faith? Do you find Paul's line of argument sensible given that God gave the Law 430 years later? [20]

Question 3

Do you think Paul was acquainted with the life and teachings of Jesus? Why is it that we hear almost nothing about his early life, miracles and teachings about the Kingdom of God from the letters? [20]

Question 4

In your opinion, why did the writer of the extract provided below later put emphasis on "household rules"? Support your views with other related passages as well. [20]

Rules for Christian Households

¹⁸ Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. ¹⁹ Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. ²⁰ Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. ²¹ Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. ²² Slaves, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in singleness of heart, fearing the Lord. ²³ Whatever your task, work heartily, as serving the Lord and not men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you are serving the Lord Christ. ²⁵ For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

4 Masters, treat your slaves justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven (Colossians 3:18-4:1), RSV

Question 5

Explain how the author of Jude exhorts readers to fight strongly for the truth of the gospel against the infiltration by false teachers. In your view, are invective threats and name-calling sound strategies in containing dissenting voices? [20]

Question 6

“It is obvious that much of the language in these descriptions is meant to be taken symbolically. Nonetheless symbolic language conveys literal truths, so that the interpreter must avoid overspiritualization” (Gundry 2004). Decode the symbolic language in the Revelation of John justifying your understanding of those symbolisms.