



MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE
2016 Diocesan Exam
Grade 10

Time: 90 Minutes

Maximum Score: 100 Points

SECTION 1: Multiple Choice - Circle the most appropriate response for the following question(s) / statement(s). (25 x 1 pt. = 25 pts. Total)

1. Who was given the instruction to cross the Jordan with the Israelites upon the death of Moses?
a. Joshua b. Caleb c. Gibeon d. Levi
A (L7 P38)
2. Among Job's friends, _____ provided comfort and strength, and did not accuse Job for his sufferings.
a. Eliphaz b. Bildad c. Zophar d. Elihu
D (L6 P35)
3. What is the Latin word that describes the concept of creating from "nothingness"?
a. Ex Nihilo b. Magnum Opus c. Carpe Diem d. Sanctorum
A (L1 P3)
4. In Isaiah's vision, which of the heavenly beings worshipped God by one calling to another and saying: "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory."?
a. Cherubim b. Seraphim
c. Angeis d. Archangels
B (L4 P20)
5. _____ is the highest spiritual activity of humans and it is the bridge of fellowship with the divine.
a. Bible Reading b. Worship
c. Songs d. none of these
B (L4 P22)
6. What does the Palestinian covenant demand of the Israelite nation?
a. Absolute devotion to God b. Sacrifices
c. Celebrate the Lord's feast d. Offerings
A (L3 P16)
7. _____ is the grand old mother of the tribe of King David.
a. Naomi b. Samaritan woman
c. Ruth d. Mary Magdalene
C (L8 P16)
8. What was the prophet Amos's original profession?
a. Shepherd & Farmer b. Josiah
c. Tentmaker & Carpenter d. Fisherman
A (L14 P76)

9. Which of the following is a petition made by Jesus during his high priestly prayer?
- a. For Unity
 - b. For Judgment
 - c. For Kindness
 - d. For Gentleness
- B (L20 P107)**
10. Apologetics is the science and art of:
- a. Apologizing
 - b. Defending the faith
 - c. Repentance
 - d. Self-Sacrifice
- B (L5 P27)**
11. How many Sons and Daughters did Job have?
- a. 12 Sons & 5 Daughters
 - b. 7 Sons & 5 Daughters
 - c. 12 Sons & 3 Daughters
 - d. 7 Sons & 3 Daughters
- D (L6 P33)**
12. What does sanctification mean?
- a. Unmerited favor
 - b. Demonstrated to be right
 - c. Set apart to be holy
 - d. Faith in what we do not see
- C (L10 P55)**
13. Who was the trained priest with proven prophetic abilities?
- a. Solomon
 - b. Ezekiel
 - c. Eli
 - d. Moses
- B (L11 P60)**
14. What does the name *Joel* mean?
- a. The Lord saves
 - b. The Lord reigns
 - c. The Lord is God
 - d. the Lord is eternal
- C (L12 P66)**
15. Which bishop refused to compromise his beliefs and was burnt alive in Asia Minor between 1st and 2nd century?
- a. Bishop Polycarp
 - b. Abraham Malpan
 - c. Sarah Flower Adams
 - d. Lucius of Cyrene
- A (L9 P49)**
16. _____ is considered to be one of the greatest Christian apologists.
- a. Frances Jane Crosby
 - b. C. S. Lewis
 - c. Sarah Flower Adams
 - d. Billy Graham
- B (L5 P27)**
17. The Edomites were descended from _____.
- a. Jacob
 - b. Ahab
 - c. Philistines
 - d. Esau
- D (L13 P71)**
18. Who stepped forward and prayed, "Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command."
- a. Elisha
 - b. Obadiah
 - c. Baal's prophets
 - d. Elijah
- D (L2 P6)**

19. Which of the following descriptions accurately describes Nicodemus?
 a. A leader of Jews b. A Pharisee c. Teacher of Israel d. All of the above
D (L17 P89)
20. As the “Crown of Creation”, what is the role of human beings in the created universe?
 a. To act as owners b. To be stewards and caretakers
 c. Exploiting it for our desires d. Being oblivious to it
B (L1 P3)
21. Which of the following is NOT one of the destructions explained by the prophet Joel?
 a. Rivers turn into blood b. Nation was invaded
 c. Locust laid everything to waste d. Food is cut off
A (L17 P66)
22. In the second year of King Darius, King of Persia, the word of the Lord came by prophet _____ to Zerubabel.
 a. Ezekiel b. Obadiah c. Isaiah d. Jeremiah
B (L15 P81)
23. Which statement is NOT true about John the Baptist?
 a. He is the voice of the one crying out in the wilderness
 b. Preached, "Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is near"
 c. Forerunner and witness of Jesus
 d. He was very friendly with the Pharisees
D (L18 P94 & P96)
24. The _____ is also known as the "Land Covenant".
 a. Mosaic Covenant b. Davidic Covenant
 c. Palestinian Covenant d. New Covenant
C (L3 P15)
25. _____ was amazed at the faith of _____ and said, "I have not found such great faith even in Israel."
 a. Jesus, the Centurion b. Jesus, the Disciples
 c. Moses, Joshua d. Jesus, the Pharisees
A (L9 P51)

SECTION 2: Short Answers - Answer any four (4) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5 pts. Ea. = 20 pts. Total)

1. What was the fundamental message of John the Baptist as seen in his sermon in Luke 3?
 What criticisms and advice did he give to different groups?
 What was his message to King Herod?

(L198 P96) 1 pt. each

- 1. Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near**
- 2. He condemned the wealthy people for their luxurious lifestyle**
- 3. He told tax collectors not to collect more than the amounts they are supposed to.**

4. **He told the soldiers not to extort money from anyone by threats or false accusations and be satisfied with their wages.**
 5. **He rebuked King Herod for his immoral activity and did not fear the consequences of his message.**
2. Christians are called to be warriors in the war being waged in the spiritual realm. What are the five pieces of the "Armor of God" that prepares believers for this task?

(L19 P102)

1 pt each

- a. **The Belt of Truth**
 - b. **Breastplate of Righteousness**
 - c. **Shield of Faith**
 - d. **Helmet of Salvation**
 - e. **Sword of the Spirit (Word of God)**
3. In a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus about the Kingdom of God, what does "being born from above" mean? What four points are clear from below verse?

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." - John 3:16

(L17 P91) 1 pt. each

- a. **Being born from above refers to those who submit to the will of the "Holy Spirit"**
 - b. **Four Points include:**
 - **Loved the world**
 - **Gave his beloved Son to the World**
 - **All people who believe in the Son will have eternal life.**
 - **All people who do not believe in the Son will perish.**
4. What is the overall tone of the prophet Obadiah towards the Edom?
 What are the historical relations between Israel and Edom?
 What was the attitude and actions of Edom in response to the pillaging of Jerusalem by the Babylonians?
 What are the consequences for Edom?

(L13 P71)

- **The overall tone of the prophet is one of bitterness towards Edom (1 pt.)**
- **The Edomites are descendants of Esau and there are references of kinship and enmity between the two nations. (1 pt.)**
- **Edom rejoiced in the conquest of Jerusalem and took part in the pillaging the city. The prevented the fleeing survivors from escaping the Babylonians. (2 pts.)**
- **Edom's hold on its enmity with Israel would cause judgment from the Lord and result in destruction of Edom. (1 pt.)**

5. What are the four initial losses Job suffered and what was his reaction to these events?

(L6 P34) 1 pt. each

Four Losses:

- 1. The Sabeans carried off the donkeys and oxen and killed the servants.**
- 2. The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants.**
- 3. The Chaldeans conducted a raid and carried off the camels.**
- 4. While Job's children were feasting in their elder brother's house, a wind caused the house to collapse and they died.**

His Reaction:

Upon hearing this, Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worked him

SECTION 3: Memory Verses - Complete any of five (5) of the following.

(5 x 5 pts. Ea. = 25 pts. Total)

- 1. He said, "Naked I come from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."**
Job 1:21
(L6 P37)
- 2. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness..."**
1 Timothy 4:7-8a
(L19 P104)
- 3. But if not, be it known to you O king that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up."**
Daniel 3: 18
(L9 P52)
- 4. "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**
Matthew 5:10
(L16 P87)
- 5. I hereby command you, 'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'**
John 3:30
(L7 P42)
- 6. But let justice roll down like the waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**
Amos 5:24
(L14 P78)

**SECTION 4: Mar Thoma Church: Our Foundation and Vision - Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement.
(10 x 1 pt. = 10 pts. Total)**

1. _____ is the official mission wing of the Mar Thoma Church
- a. Sunday school
 - b. Mar Thoma Evangelistic Assoc.
 - c. Suvishesha Sevika Sanghom
 - d. Edavaka Mission

B MTFV P240

2. All of the following institutions and centers are run by the Mar Thoma Church **except**:
- a. Rehabilitation and Development for the Mentally challenged
 - b. Medical Centers
 - c. Rehabilitation centers for the Physically Challenged
 - d. Bishop training colleges

D MTFV P235-36

3. The Mar Thoma Evanelistic Association was established in _____ A.D and served as an indigenous missionary movement in India
- a. 1776
 - b. 1848
 - c. 1888
 - d. 1988

C (MTFV P220)

4. _____ is known to have said that, “Every child is precious; every child is a gift from God.”
- a. Rt. Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma
 - b. Mother Teresa
 - c. Dr. E. Stanley Jones
 - d. Pope John XXIII

B (MTFV P222)

5. Sharing the gospel through preaching, teaching and community services became the threefold emphasis of the _____.
- a. Edavaka Mission
 - b. Adult literacy movement
 - c. Ashram movement
 - d. Sunday school

C (MTFV P242)

6. “*Koinonia*” is the _____ word for communion and fellowship.
- a. Roman
 - b. Hebrew
 - c. Greek
 - d. Syraic

C (MTFV P217)

7. What is the name of the book that Dr. Stanley Jones wrote?
- a. The Christ of the Indian Roads
 - b. How to be like Jesus
 - c. Missionary: God’s Calling
 - d. Heaven is for Real

A (MTFV P228)

8. Sneha Bhavan is an example of a _____.
- a. Guidance Center
 - b. Shelter for the destitute & homeless
 - c. Old Age Home
 - d. Medical Center

C (MTFV P237)

9. Who laid the foundation of the Mar Thoma Church in North America?
- a. Thomas Mar Athanasius
 - b. Mathews Mar Athanasius
 - c. Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan
 - d. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius

A (MTFV P221)

10. Where in India did Dr. Stanley Jones establish an ashram?

- a. Calcutta
- b. Delhi
- c. Pune
- d. Sat Tal

D (MTFV P229)

SECTION 5: Short Answer on Mar Thoma Church History - Answer one of the following questions. Answer shall be brief and to the point. (1 x 5 pts. = 5 pts. Total)

1. Name any two major contributions of the late Most Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma?

(MTFV L2 P223-24)

Any 2, 2.5 each

- a. **He had passion and zeal for mission. He called to send missionaries throughout India and started new mission fields in remote villages. He challenged members to strengthen their spiritual life through parish mission, prayer groups, and intensive study of the scripture**
 - b. **He had a prophetic mission. He fulfilled his prophetic role of the priest and continuously challenged social evils that weaken the spiritual life of members of the church and community. He fought for abolition of liquor, exhorted people to end corruption, and fight injustice and inequalities within society and the church.**
 - c. **His concern for the poor. He was not pleased with the material progress of the Church that left behind the economically weaker members of the church. He wanted the Church to be more inclusive of the less fortunate among members and in society without regard for creed, religion, or caste. Recognition was granted to the congregations of the Mar Thoma Dalits as independent parishes giving representation in the Sabha Padhinidhi Mandalam.**
2. What is mission? What is Ministry?

(MTFV P117)

2.5 pts each

- a. **Mission of the church is centrifugal – reaching out and bringing people into the fellowship of the church**
- b. **Ministry is centripetal – taking care of the people’s total needs. Diokonial mission of Christ to serve the total needs of the people. Involvement of both priests and laity. Church follows the “Feed my Lamb commission taking care of social, economic, and spiritual needs of the Christian community.**

SECTION 6: Essay - Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in 200 words. (15 pts. Total)

1. God has utilized prophets throughout history to convey truths to the people. Similarly, the prophet Amos was used by God to address the issues that were prevalent in the society. Write an essay including the following:
 - a. Introduction **(1pts.)**
 - b. A brief biography of Amos **(3 pts.)**
 - c. The situation of Israel/Judah during the time of Amos **(4 pts.)**
 - d. The message of Amos. **(4 pts.)**
 - e. Christian response to similar issues in today's society/ Biblical Guidelines to us **(3 pts.)**

(L14)

- a. **Introduction**
- b. **Amos from Tekoa in Southern Kingdom of Judah. He was a farmer/shepherd and looked after sycamore fig trees. He prophesied during King Uzziah in Judah and King Jeroboam II in Israel. He was the first prophet to use the term “the Day of the Lord.” Amos was a vigorous spokesman for God’s justice and righteousness.**
- c. **Both kingdoms were prosperous and successful politically and militaristically. It was a time of idolatry, extravagant indulgence in luxurious living, immorality, corruption of judicial procedures, and oppression of the poor. This was a low point in their devotion to God. People became greedy and didn’t adhere to values. Wealthy were becoming rich at the expense of others. Peasants who practiced subsistence farming were forced to farm what is best for foreign trade, mostly wine and oil.**
- d. **Message of Amos – “But let justice roll down like the waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.” God was urging his rebellious children to change their ways and live a life pleasing to God. Amos declared that God was going to judge his unfaithful, disobedient, covenant-breaking people. He spoke against the sins of pagan worship, idolatry, greed, corrupted leadership, and oppression of the poor. God would uproot his chosen people by the hands of a pagan nation. Beyond the pending judgment, house of David would again rule over Israel and extend rule over many nations. Israel would once again be secure in the Promised Land and God would not abandon His chosen people again.**
- e. **Christian Response to Social Injustice – Love thy neighbor as thyself as seen in the example of the Good Samaritan. Both old and new testaments show us that we should have concern for the poor and needy; we must be just and merciful in all our dealings with others. Do unto others as you would have others do to you. Every human being especially those in leadership has a God-given moral duty to protect**

fellow human beings from social injustices. Pursuing social justice is a moral responsibility of the church and Christians.

2. In a world full of troubles, Jesus reassured the people of His time by teaching them the Beatitudes which always points towards the Kingdom of Heaven. Explain the meaning of the beatitude and their overall message. Include:
 - a. Introduction (1 pt.)
 - b. What are the parts of the beatitudes? (3 pts.)
 - c. Explain each of the beatitudes (1 pt. x 9 = 9 pts. Total)
 - d. Conclusion – What is the overall focus/message of the beatitudes? (2 pts.)

(L16)

- a. **The beatitudes are statements of blessedness that follow a formulaic expression. It is a part of the Sermon on the Mount. Beatitudes point towards Kingdom of Heaven.**
- b. **The beatitudes have three parts. 1) The adjective “blessed”, 2) identifying the subject that is “blessed”, 3) The condition assuring blessedness.**
- c. **There are nine subheadings of blessedness and each separate description of blessedness per condition.**
 1. **“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.” – Fundamental attitude of believers. Refers to those who are spiritually poor who have humbled themselves before God, acknowledging their sinful nature, and their need for a savior. This is the attitude that believers should possess- their need for God and a relationship with him.**
 2. **“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted – an everlasting hope for believers.” Mourning comes with the significant loss (loved one, broken relationships, etc.) Out of mourning comes hope. Jesus will be the comfort and hope.**
 3. **“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth” – A spirit of gentleness and self-control possessed by believers. Meek people possess a spirit of gentleness, do not oppress others, free from malice. Also mentioned as one of the fruits of the spirit. Jesus wasn’t speaking of the physical earth, rather to the promised land. The earth exemplifies security and inheritance of God.**
 4. **“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.” – The yearning nature of the believer for the Lord’s vision. Those who have a constant desire to seek uprightness and God’s ways will be filled.**
 5. **“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.” – The forgiving nature of the believer. An outward expression of dependence on the Lord. Having mercy acknowledges our own shortcomings which enables us to show**

mercy to others. Lord will show mercy on those who show mercy it means we have understood the grace granted to us.

6. **“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”** – The vision and seeking of God by believers. Pure in heart refers to actions of a believer that are aligned with God’s vision and deemed good in God’s eyes. This mind enables us to “see God”. This promise demands faith.
 7. **“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”** – The advancement of the Kingdom of by believers. This is not the ceasing of hostilities and war within the world. Peacemakers are characterized as those who focus on harmonious communities and promoting the Kingdom of God on earth. “Children of God” means a greater relationship with God working the way Jesus worked.
 8. **“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”** – The perseverance of believers. The world is broken and far from God and those who are seeking righteousness will be persecuted. Jesus assures a great reward for being persecuted for righteous living.
 9. **“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”** – The great reward for believers. This beatitude focuses on the individual you and Jesus and that Jesus is the center of the beatitudes. Persecution against believers for Jesus’ sake will result in a great reward in heaven. This is showing the aspect of martyrdom and perseverance through trial
- d. The focus of the Beatitudes is reward based on the level of spiritual experience and relation with God rather than material recompense. Jesus talks about spiritual wealth gained from present suffering experienced (daily taking up His Cross). These are rewards for true believers.