



Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
Trinity College Dublin

Ollscoil Átha Cliath | The University of Dublin

**Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Biblical Studies**

**Matriculation Examination**

**April 20<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**BIBLICAL STUDIES**

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**WRITE YOUR CAO NUMBER ON THE FRONT COVER. WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE CORNER FLAP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE, FOLD IT OVER AND SEAL IT. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR CAO NUMBER WRITE YOUR NAME AND SEAL THE FLAP.**

**ANSWER FOUR QUESTIONS IN TOTAL: TWO MUST BE FROM SECTION A AND TWO MUST BE FROM SECTION B.**

## **SECTION A**

### **The Old Testament**

#### **YOU MUST ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM SECTION A**

1. The loss of land, temple, and kingship at the hands of the Babylonians in 586 BCE was catastrophic for Israel's traditional understanding of its special status. How did the biblical writers find ways to come to terms with this? Did they succeed?
2. Does the Deuteronomistic History provide us with a reliable historical account from which we can reconstruct the history of Israel's and Judah's kings? If not, why not? You may use the accounts of individual kings to illustrate your answer.
3. Outline the ways in which the author(s) of Job problematise the Bible's traditional views of divine justice.
4. Amos' condemnation of the nations in chapters 1 and 2 concludes with his delivery of a divine condemnation of Israel. Broadly speaking, the crimes of the nations can be described as war crimes, while Judah is condemned for other sins. Compare the basis of the condemnation of the nations and of Judah in this passage (Amos 1:3-15) with the basis of Israel's condemnation in Amos 2:6-12.
5. Does the Book of Job put God or Job on trial?
6. How does the biblical account of the destruction of Israel's capital Samaria differ to accounts of the city's destruction in Assyrian sources? Explain why the perspectives are often so different.

## **SECTION B: THE NEW TESTAMENT**

### **YOU MUST ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS FROM THIS SECTION**

9. EITHER

Jesus had a radical view of Judaism and set out to become founder of an entirely new religion that would become Christianity. Do you agree with this statement?

OR

Judaism before Jesus could never have become as popular and as widespread as it became with the figure of Jesus. Discuss

10. Jewish views and beliefs about the Jerusalem temple meant that the Roman destruction of it in 70 CE had a fundamental impact on Jewish communities everywhere. Discuss.

11. What was it about Corinth that resulted in so much misunderstanding of the meaning of the Eucharist as it was understood by Paul?

12. Once the Jesus movement expanded beyond Judea and Galilee to non-Jewish territories, new problems arose. Discuss this statement in relation to Acts.

14. EITHER

What stories in the Gospels best depict the value that Jesus placed on an individual woman's faith and her understanding of that faith?

OR

Were Jesus' views of social justice entirely new?