



**MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS**  
**DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE**  
**2016 Diocesan Exam**  
**Grade 8**

Time: 90 Minutes

Maximum Score: 100 Points

**Section 1 – Multiple Choice. Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement. (30 x 1pt= 30 pts Total)**

1. God said to \_\_\_\_\_, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it."  
a. Noah and his family  
b. Abraham and Sarah  
c. Adam and Eve  
d. Jacob and Rachel  
**C (L1 P1)**
2. Solomon began to build the temple in the \_\_\_\_\_ year after the Israelites came out of the land of Egypt.  
a. 380th                      b. 400th                      c. 450th                      d. 480th  
**D (L12 P53)**
3. God asked Jonah to go to \_\_\_\_\_, but he went down to Joppa and got on a ship going to \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Jezreel / Nineveh  
b. Nineveh / Damascus  
c. Nineveh / Tigris  
d. Nineveh / Tarshish  
**D (L10 P45)**
4. During the journey of Israelites to the Promised Land, they camped at a place named \_\_\_\_\_ where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees.  
a. Shur                      b. Elim                      c. Sinai                      d. Sin  
**B (L1 P1)**
5. Elisha told Naaman to go and wash himself seven times in the river \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Abana                      b. Pharpar                      c. Nile                      d. Jordan  
**D (L15 P68)**
6. \_\_\_\_\_ mingled the blood of some Galileans with their sacrifices.  
a. King Herod                      b. The Emperor                      c. Pilot                      d. High Priest  
**C (L7 P33)**
7. \_\_\_\_\_ was the only one disciple of Jesus who was **NOT** martyred.  
a. Peter                      b. Philip                      c. Nathaniel                      d. John  
**D (L20 P96-97)**
8. Jesus' disciple John lived to write the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John and the book of Revelations while he was in exile in \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Babylon                      b. Syria                      c. Island of Patos                      d. Rome

**C (L20 P97)**

9. The Lord warned that, "whoever kills \_\_\_\_\_ will suffer a sevenfold vengeance."  
a. Abel                      b. Noah                      c. Cain                      d. Jesus

**C (L3 P11)**

10. \_\_\_\_\_ was the first disciple of Jesus to be martyred.  
a. Peter                      b. Thomas                      c. James                      d. John

**C (L20 P96)**

11. Jesus called \_\_\_\_\_ down from a tree.  
a. Peter                      b. Matthew                      c. Lazarus                      d. Zacchaeus

**D (L9 P41)**

12. Before God changed it to Sarah, what was her name?  
a. Sarai                      b. Rebecca                      c. Hannah                      d. Hagar

**A (L5 P21)**

13. The two groups of people who conspired against Jesus were the Pharisees and the:  
a. Romans                      b. Herodians                      c. Sadducees                      d. Greek

**B (L17 P80)**

14. The Israelites ate manna in the wilderness for \_\_\_\_\_ years.  
a. 7                      b. 70                      c. 10                      d. 40

**D (L11 P50)**

15. In the parable of the prodigal son, the older brother symbolizes \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Jesus                      b. Pharisees                      c. Priest                      d. good friend

**B (L16 P77)**

16. Isaiah lived 700 years before the birth of Jesus Christ and prophesied during the reign of four kings. He **did not** prophesy during the reign of King \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Ahaz                      b. Ahab                      c. Jotham                      d. Hezekiah

**B (L7 P31)**

17. In response to a question from God, \_\_\_\_\_ responded with, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?"

- a. Abel                      b. Cain                      c. Jonah                      d. Ruben

**B (L3 P11)**

18. The name Hannah means \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. God's gift                      b. joy                      c. mercy                      d. grace

**D (L9 P1)**

19. Jonah was the son of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Abraham                      b. Hezekiah                      c. Amittai                      d. Uzziah

**C (L10 P45)**

20. Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Eden                      b. Judea                      c. Nod                      d. Rod  
**C (L3 P11)**
21. Abraham almost sacrificed Isaac on the summit of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Mount Sinai              b. Mount Carmel              c. Mount Mariah              d. Mount Horeb  
**C (L12 P55)**
22. Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of \_\_\_\_\_."  
 a. Haran                      b. Damascus                      c. Egypt                      d. Canaan  
**B (L5 P21)**
23. Adam named his wife Eve because she was \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. mother to Cain              b. the first woman              c. his wife                      d. mother of all living  
**D (L2 P6)**
24. \_\_\_\_\_ was King Ahab's wife.  
 a. Rehoboam                      b. Delilah                      c. Abigail                      d. Jezebel  
**D (L8 P36)**
25. The word "Passover" is derived from the Hebrew word \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Victory                      b. Matzah                      c. Pesach                      d. Pasech  
**C (L14 P65)**
26. Samuel's parents Hannah and \_\_\_\_\_ lived in the small town of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Joseph                                              b. Sobach  
 c. Elkanah                                              d. Amoz  
**C (L9 P1)**
27. Elijah brought the \_\_\_\_\_ of Baal to Wadi Kishon and killed them there.  
 a. priests                      b. prophets                      c. disciples                      d. worshippers  
**B (L8 P58)**
28. The temple that Solomon built for the Lord was \_\_\_\_\_ long, \_\_\_\_\_ wide, and \_\_\_\_\_ high.  
 a. 50 cubits / 30 cubits / 20 cubits                      b. 40 cubits/ 20 cubits/ 30 cubits  
 c. 60 cubits/ 20 cubits/ 30 cubits                      d. 60 cubits/ 40 cubits/ 20 cubits  
**B (L12 P53)**
29. \_\_\_\_\_ was the commander of the army of the king of Aram.  
 a. Potiphar                      b. Naaman                      c. Joshua                      d. Asahel  
**B (L15 P69)**

30. James 5:17-18 reads: \_\_\_\_\_ was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain.”
- a. Elisha                      b. Elijah                      c. Isaiah                      d. Malachi

**B (L8 P38)**

**Section 2 – Short Answers. Answer any four (4) of the following questions.**

**Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5pts = 20 pts Total)**

1. What was the question the Pharisees and the Herodians asked Jesus to trap Him? How did Jesus answer them?

**L17 P81-82 (2.5 pts each)**

- **The question to Jesus was about paying poll tax which was the clearest sign of submission to Rome. The Pharisees and the Herodians asked Jesus, “Teacher, is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?”**
- **Jesus asked them to show a Roman coin. As they handed Jesus a denarius, he asked his questioners a question “Whose head is this, and whose title?”. They answered, “The emperor’s”. Then Jesus said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and give to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed and they left him and went away.**

2. What is the focus of the last six commandments? List them in order.

**L4 P17**

- **The last six commandments focus on our relationship to others. (2 pts)**  
**(1 pt each for below bullets)**
- **Honor your father and mother**
- **You shall not murder**
- **You shall not commit adultery**
- **You shall not steal**
- **You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor**
- **You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor [your neighbors house, wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.]**

3. What do the Israelites celebrate at Passover? What are the three components of the ordinance of Passover God gave through Moses?

**L14 P65**

- **At Passover, the Israelites celebrate their deliverance from slavery to the Egyptians and God sparing the first born sons of the Israelites from the Angel of Death. (2 pts)**

**Three components of ordinance of Passover (1 pt. each)**

- **The killing and eating of the Passover Lamb**
- **The sprinkling of blood upon the door frame**
- **The feast of unleavened bread for seven days**

4. Jesus calls God the Father and gardener of a vineyard in the “I am the Vine” conversation with his disciples. Jesus continues to describe how we are called to bear fruits and how God prunes us for his work.

Name any five fruits we are expected to bear as stated in Galatians?

**L19 P92 (Any five 1 pt each)**

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-Control

5. Explain how Elijah proved to the people and the king that the Lord, God of Israel, is the only real God.

**L8 P37-38 (1 pt ea.)**

- **Elijah asked King Ahab to call the prophets of Baal and Asherah to Mt. Carmel and challenged them to prove whose God is the true God through a test.**
- **Both Elijah and the prophets of Baal cut up a bull and lay it on a wood altar without fire. The God who answers by fire will be the true God.**
- **The prophets of Baal and Asherah prepared their bull and called on Baal from morning till noon with no answer.**
- **Elijah prepared his bull and poured water on the altar. Upon prayer to God, fire consumed the offering.**
- **This proved that Elijah's God was the only real God.**

**Section 3 – Memory Verses. Complete any of five (5) of the following on the answer sheet provided (5 x 5pts = 25 pts. Total)**

1. Even though you **intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people**, as he is doing today. - Genesis 50:20  
**(L6 P30)**
2. Then pay **attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have** will be taken away.  
- Luke 8:18  
**(L18 P89)**
3. O give **thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.** - Psalm 136: 26  
**(L11 P52)**
4. Then God spoke all these words: **I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods** before me. - Exodus 20: 1-3  
**(L4 P18)**



9. The prayer to the Holy Spirit to bless the bread and wine is for Holy Communion is called:

- a. Prayer of Epiclesis
- b. Intercessory Prayer
- c. Prayer of Anamnesis
- d. Prayer of Confession

**A (MTVF P181)**

10. \_\_\_\_\_ means the commissioning of one's identification with the death and resurrection of Jesus.

- a. Holy Communion
- b. Baptism
- c. Confession
- d. Confirmation

**B (MTVF P)**

**Section 5 – Mar Thoma History Short Answer. Answer one of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (1 x 5pts = 5 pts Total)**

1. What are the two parts in the order of service in a Christian Wedding? Explain

**(MTVF P185) 2.5 pts. ea.**

- **The order of service of Christian marriage consists of two parts. First part is the blessing of the rings. It is the service of betrothal. The celebrant on behalf of the Church adorns the couple with the rings offering special prayers for the blessing of God.**
- **The second part of the service is the service of consecration, which is the blessing with crown. The blessing of the Almighty is invoked on the bride and the bridegroom.**

2. What are the 10 parts of the St. James liturgy used by the Mar Thoma Church?

**(MTVF P180) 0.5 pts. Ea.**

- **Anticomunion**
- **Prayer of Epiclesis**
- **Sermon**
- **Intercession**
- **Confessional Prayer**
- **Second Blessing**
- **Kiss of Peace**
- **Breaking of Bread**
- **First Blessing**
- **Third Blessing**
- **Words of Institution**
- **Participation and Final Blessing**
- **Prayer of Anamnesis**

**Section 6 – Essay. Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in 150 words. (Total 10 points)**

1. Joseph said to his brothers, “Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people.”

Through the story of Joseph explain how did God turn the harm his brothers intended him to good?

- a. Introduction (1 pt.)
- b. Describe the circumstances of Joseph’s arrival in Egypt (3 pts.)
- c. Joseph's reaction to seeing his brothers in Egypt. (3 pts.)
- d. Explain God’s purpose for Joseph’s life. (2 pts.)
- e. Conclusion – Importance of forgiveness and reconciliation (1 pt.)

**(L6 P27 onwards)**

- a. **The story of Joseph and his brothers is of forgiveness and reconciliation. It also teaches that God has a purpose in our lives. We need to recognize God’s purpose in order for us to have a fruitful life. (Students may write their own introduction related to Joseph’s story)**
- b. **Joseph was the second youngest son of Jacob. Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons and that made them jealous of Joseph. His brothers sold Joseph as a slave to Ishmaelites. They brought to him to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar. Joseph was wrongly accused and sent to prison. God was with Joseph and gave him the ability to interpret dreams. This helped Joseph to become the prime minister of Egypt.**
- c. **There was a great famine in the land of Canaan. Jacob heard that there is food available in Egypt. He sent his sons to Egypt to buy food. Joseph was in charge of the distribution of food. His brothers came stood in front of him without knowing that it was their brother Joseph. But Joseph recognized his brothers. Even though his brother intended to do harm him, he was happy to see them. He revealed to them that he is their brother Joseph. He assured them that they don’t have to be afraid of him. He is not seeking any vengeance. He has forgiven them. Joseph said to his brothers, “Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people.” He asked his brothers to go back bring their father Jacob and rest of their families to Egypt and he promised to take care of them.**
- d. **Joseph’s brother intended harm too him when they sold him as a slave. Joseph trusted God and God revealed his plan through the dream Joseph had as a boy. God used the harmful act of his brothers for good of Joseph and his family. Joseph’s exaltation from slavery to the position as second in command of Egypt did not make him proud. He gave full glory to God.**
- e. **Joseph could have paid his brother back for their evil action towards him. But he chose to forgive them and reconcile with them. He was very happy to see them. Forgiveness is very important in a Christian’s life. As God forgives our sins, we should forgive those who wrong us. As Joseph helped his brothers in their time of need, we should be willing help others, even those who hurt us, in their needs. *(any variation of a valid conclusion to the student's essay should be honored)***

2. Malachi 3:8 reads “Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! but you say, “How are we robbing you?” In your tithe and offerings!”

What is tithe?	(Introduction 1 pt.)
State the five Major statements made by Malachi	(3 pts.)
Explain each statement	(5 pts.)
Conclusion	(1 pt.)

**(L13 P58)**

**Introduction:** The word **tithe** comes from a Hebrew word that means one tenth. The prophet Malachi really is trying to get the attention of the people about their giving habit. God’s people were failing to bring the required offering into the house of the Lord.

**Statements from the passage made by prophet Malachi are**

- 1) **The tithe is the minimum.**
- 2) **The curse came from disobedience. (v.9)**
- 3) **The store house represents God’s work. (v.10)**
- 4) **The test challenges God to bless. (v.10)**
- 5) **The blessings are out of this world. (v.10)**

**I. The tithe is the minimum:**

**The first 10% of the income really is the tithe that one owes God. Tithing is a place to begin in supporting God’s Kingdom. Tithing is the requirement by God for everybody.**

**II. The curse came from disobedience**

**"You are suffering under a curse, yet you - the whole nation - are still robbing Me" (Mal. 3:9). God's people robbed Him, they have put a curse overall nation. They did that to themselves. Partial obedience is never obedience. One who holds on to tithe never benefits from it. Rather it is an act of blocking an opportunity for God to bless us. God spoke to Israelites that if all the tithes and offering were brought in to the storehouse, He would in turn open the windows of heaven and pour them out a blessing that they could not contain. Also, God promised that He would rebuke the devourer for their sake. While there are spiritual and financial consequences for failing to give God, we should never think that we will be "cursed". The foundational New Testament teaching clarifies: "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, because it is written: Everyone who is hung on a tree is cursed" (Gal. 3:13 HCSB).**

**III. The storehouse represents God's work (v. 10)**

**"Bring the full tenth into the storehouse so that there may be food in my house" (Mal. 3:10). In Israel, the people brought their tithes of grain, olives, wine, and meat to be stored in the Temple. These goods**

supported the priests and Levites, those serving God vocationally, since they did not have other sources of income. The poor in the community were also supported from tithe. Temple Operations were also supported from tithe. As we begin to put God first, in our giving, we practice to put God first in every area of life. This beautiful truth is really the heart of giving. We pay God first. It is true that many of God's people reverse this process. They give some money to God only if there is anything left. This exactly was happening in Malachi's day. People of Malachi's day were giving God the leftovers and thereby robbing God.

IV. The test challenges God to bless (v. 10)  
"'Test Me in this way,' says the LORD of Hosts" (Mal. 3:10). God challenged His people to give according to the Law so that He could bless them. No other time God issued such a challenge in the Bible. We have seen in an earlier lesson on Cain and Abel how God looks at the condition of the heart of the giver (see 2 Cori: 9.7). God is serious about the true condition of one's heart.

V. The blessings are out of this world (v. 10)  
"'See if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out a blessing for you without measure'" (Mal. 3:10). This is an amazing passage of Scripture. In a giving match, no one can out-give God.

Conclusion: We need to make our tithing a priority to honor God and trust God with our career and Finances. *(any variation of a valid conclusion to the student's essay should be honored)*