



MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE
2018 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. Through the process of creation, God brought _____ to a chaotic situation?
a. Creation b. Order c. Man d. Happiness

B (L1 P3)

2. What was the name of the Ravine the Lord commanded Elijah to go too?
a. Askorok b. Kerith c. Anon d. Gilead

B (L2 P8)

~~3. St. Augustine became the Bishop of _____
a. Hippo _____ b. Carthage _____ c. Rome _____ d. Demaseus _____~~

~~**A (L3 P14)**~~

~~4. Who wrote the song Blessed Assurance?
a. Frances J. Crosby _____ b. John Newton _____ c. Wallace Willis _____ d. Charles Tindley _____~~

~~**A (L4 P20)**~~

5. Who was the Jewish historian (AD 37-100) that wrote of Jesus?
a. Josephus b. Tacitus c. Pliny d. Lucian

A (L5 P29)

6. There are _____ subheadings of “blessedness” ascribed by Jesus in the “Sermon of the Mount”
a. 3 b. 6 c. 12 d. 9

D (L16 P86)

7. To what did Jesus compare “born of Spirit” in the conversation with Nicodemus?
a. Prayer b. Wind c. Fire d. Serpent

B (L17 P21)

8. John the Baptist rebuked which King, without fear, for his immoral activities?
a. Herod b. Ahab c. Saul d. David

A (L18 P96)

9. Which one of the choices is not part of the “Armor of God” that Paul describes?
a. Belt of Truth b. Helmet of Wisdom c. Shield of Faith d. Breastplate of Righteousness
B (L19 P102)

~~10. Who once said “If god be your partner, make your plans large.”
a. Jim Elliott b. Martin Luther c. D.L. Moody d. Bishop of Hippo
C (L20 P106)~~

11. What was the name of the chief tax collector, who voluntarily gave half of his wealth away, and said he would pay back four times of what he cheated the people of?
a. Nathanael b. Nicodemus c. Zacchaeus d. Matthew

C (L21 P113)

~~12. Who was regarded as the foremost interpreter of the theory of Logos?
a. Justin Martyr b. Nicodemus c. Paul d. Jim Elliott
A (L22 P118)~~

13. Gnostic preaching, one of the most dangerous heresies of the first two centuries of the Church, tried to rationalize salvation not in faith, but by?
a. Humanity b. History c. Morality d. Special Knowledge

D (L23 P124)

14. Who tells the crowd, “there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12 NRSV)”
a. Paul b. Peter c. John d. Thomas

B (L24 P131)

~~15. Who said “Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less.”
a. C.S. Lewis b. Justin Martyr c. D.L. Moody d. Jim Elliott
A (L25 P134)~~

16. Who sentenced Jesus to be scourged and finally crucified?
a. Caesar b. King Herod c. Pontius Pilate d. Pharisees

C (L26 P141)

17. The Acts of the Apostles was written by?
a. Philip b. Luke c. Simon d. Peter

B (L27 P146)

18. Which of the following is NOT an offering mentioned in Leviticus?
a. Burnt Offerings b. Grain Offerings c Offerings of Well Beings d. Offerings of Self Denial

D (L27 P149)

2. What are the characteristics of an Eternal Being?

(L5, P28)

- **Eternal**
- **He is the cause or creator of all we see and do not see**
- **Infinitely knowledgeable – Omniscient**
- **Possesses infinite power- Omnipotent**
- **Exists everywhere – Omnipresent**
- **Unchanging Nature**

3. Briefly describe Pluralism, Exclusivism, and Inclusivism.

(L28 P155)

Pluralism – is the belief that all the world religions are correct in their assertions about the truth of God. It is a belief that all religions lead to God and heaven.

Exclusivism – the only path toward salvation is through faith in Jesus Christ. Therefore, the teachings and practices of other religions cannot bring about salvation. Bible is the ultimate truth and revelation of all things past, present, and future.

Inclusivism – Based on two points: the first is that salvation is through Christ alone, the second is that God wills the whole world to be saved. Consequently, God saves people through Christ alone; however, he makes this possible through ways that extend to all humanity.

4. Elijah prepared a challenge for the Prophets of Baal and Asherah, describe the challenge and why the people turned to God after witnessing and participating in the event?

(L2 P9)

The challenge was whichever God answered by setting fire to the offering placed on the altar would be deemed the true God.

The prophets of Baal and Asherah were first to make their altar. They cut up pieces of wood and placed a bull as an offering to Baal and proclaimed praises, pled, and slashed themselves to allow their blood to flow from morning to evening. Elijah knew their God would not answer.

Elijah repaired the altar of God, that had been thrown down, by setting up twelve stones (representative of the 12 tribes of Israel), then arranged wood for the altar, laid the bull on the wood. He then built a trench and asked the people to pour four large jars of water three times over the altar which was enough to fill the trench. Then Elijah prayed to God and a great fire burned the offering and even licked up the water in the trench.

Elijah did nothing to persuade the people, he allowed the people to be involved and did everything in a manner that proved to the people that God was the controller of the physical world. Water cannot ignite on its own, and so this miracle the people witnessed goes beyond Science and human comprehension. The people turned to God by witnessing the whole incident and by participating in the event.

5. What does the following Beatitude mean: “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’s sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.” In what way Dietrich Bonhoeffer best exemplify this Beatitude?

(L16, P85-86)

Those who are searching for righteousness will be persecuted on the account of their pursuit after God’s heart. Jesus reassures those who may be distraught and worn from persecution that the reward is great, for “theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”

Dietrich was a devote follower of Christ and was an active leader in the Christian community. During the Nazi regime, Dietrich went against the German Christians who were promulgating the Nazi ideology and were seeking the elimination of Jews. Dietrich not only house Jews but also plotted with conspirators for a political resistance against Hitler. Dietrich sacrificed everything, including his life. He was hung with fellow conspirators at the Buchenwald concentration camp after being captured by Hitler. Through Bonhoeffer, we see a life lived for the glorification of God’s kingdom by not indulging in the society’s boundaries and unethical standards.

6. What are 5 ways of living a Christ centered life?

(L21. P112)

- Christ has to be your lord and Savior first
- Reading the Bible/Prayer
- Obedience
- Doing/Serving
- Repent and continue to seek Christ

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

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

1. “Answer me, _____

_____ back again.” (1 Kings 18:37)

(L2,P12) "Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again." (1 Kings 18:37)

2. "But in your hearts _____

_____ that is in you;" (1 Peter 3:15)

"But in your hearts, sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;" 1 Peter 3:15.

(L5 P32)

3. "I have fought _____

_____ crown of righteousness (2 Timothy 4:7-8a)

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. (L19 P104)

4. And the Word became _____

_____ and truth. (John 1:14)

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father only son, full of grace and truth.

(L22 P120)

5. But strive first _____

_____ to you as well. (Matthew 6:33)

But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

(L21 P115)

6. Remember Jesus Christ, _____

_____ is my gospel," 2 Timothy 2:8

(L26/144)

7. "Then he said to me, _____

_____ the water of life." (Revelations 21:6)

8. Mar Thoma Evangelistic Association was established in
a. 1924 b. 1888 c. 1919 d. 1908

B (L5 P240)

9. Which one of the choices below was **NOT** the part of the three early Ashrams
a. Christudas a Ashram b. Christa Panthi Ashram
c. Christu Mitra Ashram d. Christu Naga Ashram **D (L5 P242)**

10. In what year was Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Valiya Metropolitan elevated to Valiya Thirumeni?

a. a. 1924 b. 1899 c. 1999 d. 1968 **C (L2 P223)**

SECTION 5: Short Answer on Mar Thoma Church History - Answer any two (2 out of 3) of the following questions. Answer shall be brief and to the point. (2 x 5 pts. = 10 pts. Total)

1. List some of the major contributions of the late Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma Valiya Metropolitan.

(L2 P222)

- A great passion and zeal for the Mission of the Church was the supreme guiding principle in his life. He strengthened existing mission fields, and gave deep insight on mission and the urgent need for evangelization was reelected in the monthly letters he published.
- His prophetic vision. He fulfilled the prophetic role of the priest and continuously challenged the social evils that weakened the spiritual life of our Church members and in the community.
- His concern for the poor. He was not pleased with the material progress of the Church that left behind the economically weaker segments of the members of the Church. He exhorted the Church to be inclusive and to take appropriate measures to uplift the life of the less fortunate.

2. Discuss two major contributions of Dr. E. Stanley Jones that gave him success as a missionary in India.

(L1 P216)

- Dr. Jones adopted a style of Indianizing the gospel message in his understanding of evangelism. Christ must be seen from an Indian context and in an Indian setting. This allowed for the people to India to relate better to Christ, and was more effective than using Westernized perspective.
- Dr. Jones started Christian Ashrams in India. Modern Indian Ashrams are an attempt to reclaim an ancient Indian social institution for contemporary social, political, or religious purposes. Dr. Jones, having spent considerable time inside the Gandhian Ashram, realized it would be a truly beneficial to the local community to establish an Ashram that would make an attempt to study the Gospel and the implications, its relationship to India's heritage, and to India's religions.

3. Give two reasons why Mother Theresa is a supreme example of love, humility and Christ-likeness.

(L3 P230)

- She challenged society and her sermons were thought provoking.
- She sacrificed her time and life to the betterment of the neglected, the abused, the marginal and destitute of society.
- Her actions and her lifestyle were all representative of God's love and Christ-likeness.
- With very little she was able to have such profound impacts, including the large number of organizations and groups that exist today because of her work
- She lived a simple life, one that was the epitome of simple faith and humble living.

SECTION 6: Essay - Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in 150 words. (10 pts. Total)

1) 1 John Chapter 4 introduces the idea of sacrificial love and transformational love. Explain how we can personify the love of God in our lives. Include the following:

- a. Introduction (2)
 - b. Message of sacrificial love (2)
 - c. Message of transforming love (2)
 - d. Personifying God's love in our lives (2)
 - e. Conclusion (2)
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- a) **The apostle John wrote the Epistle of John around AD 85-90. In this epistle, he spoke of the true love both transformational and sacrificial.**
 - b) **John writes about the sacrificial love that God has for us. A love that requires sacrifice is a love that worth following, living for, and even dying for. For we had no merit in our own work to give value to the "love" we bear, but by the divine, just and perfect nature of God.**
 - c) **John writes on a love that not only sacrifices all for others but a love that transforms its bearer. God is love and God dwelling in us changes our actions to reflect our faith in God and when you have faith in Christ Jesus, you reflect his Love.**
 - d) **As a result, we need to personify our love. Loving others through the mission work provided by church and loving others who are in need. Giving our time and talents to help those who are in need.**
 - e) **The love our Father has given us is the greatest gift, seen when his only Son died on the cross. For us to be true followers of Christ, it is our duty to show this love to others.**

(L23 P124)

1. Write an essay describing humility through the use of following statement: "He must increase and I must decrease." (L25/P133-136)

Include:

1. Explain John's statement (2 pts)
2. What are some biblical examples of humility referenced on lesson 25? (3 pts)

3. How can we show humility? (3 pts)
4. Conclusion (2 pts)

- In the introduction, student should introduce where the quote “He must increase, I must decrease” is from (said by John the Baptist in reference to Jesus and himself), define humility (fully dependent on God and not relying on yourself; letting go of ego and pride) and introduce the concepts that they will talk about in their essay.
- Student should have 1-2 biblical examples of humility and how they depicted humility in the bible. (1 point for biblical character; 2 pts for how they showed humility) Examples from lesson 25 include:
 - Moses (he does not defend himself against Aaron and Miriam when they question his authority but waits for God to speak to them.)
 - Paul (saw himself as the foremost sinner and least of the apostles; the grace of God made him a powerful instrument in building the kingdom of heaven)
 - Jesus (Though he was in the form of God, he took on the form of a slave and humbled himself even to the point of death on the cross)
- Student should give examples of how we can use the examples in the bible to show humility in our own lives. Examples include giving God glory for our successes, making sacrifices for the Kingdom of God, and recognizing the sinful nature of ourselves
- Students should summarize what they presented in the essay and tie concepts back to the quote: “He must increase, I must decrease”. Students should explain “all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted”