



MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE
2019 Diocesan Exam: Grade 9

Time: 90 Minutes

Maximum Score: 100 Points

Section 1 – Multiple Choice. Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement. (25 x 1pt= 25 pts Total)

- Samuel grew up in the house of the Lord, under the leadership of: (L- 2)
A. Elkanah **B. Eli, the High Priest** C. Hophni D. Phinehas
- The Israelites asked for a king to reign over them when they saw king _____ came against them. (L- 2)
A. King Jabin of Hazor B. King of Moab
C. **King Nahash of the Ammonites** D. King of the Philistines
- Born slave in Abram's house: (L 4)
A. Hagar B. Ishmael **C. Eliezer of Damascus** D. Keturah
- The angel of the Lord found Hagar by a spring on the way to _____ L5-19
A. Kadesh **B. Shur** C. Bered D. Canaan
- What did David do after his sin was exposed by the prophet? L6 26
A. He blamed Bathsheba B. He denied it
C. He got angry **D. He said, "I have sinned against the Lord."**
- The dialogue between _____ and _____ consists of two divine encounters pertaining to Promised Seed and Promised Land: L7 P29
A. **God and Abram** B. Abraham and Sarah C. Abram and Isaac D. Abram and Hagar
- Jesus called these two the 'sons of thunder'. L8 P36

A. Simon and Andrew B. Mathew, Simon **C. James and John** D. Philip and Thomas

8. Who wrote Psalms 89? L9 P43

A. David, b. Solomon **C Ethan the Ezrahite** D. Asaph

9. What book is also considered as a book of war? L10 P43

A. Joel B. Esther C Jeremiah **D. Joshua**

10. Name the Jew who would not bow to anyone except God under Persian King Ahasuerus

A. Mordecai B. Haman C Esther D. Hathach L11 P45

11. Who is the known as the Apostle of the Gentiles? (L13)

A. Thomas B. Peter **C. Paul** D. John

12. Who said to whom? "I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." L13 P53

A. Ananias to Saul **B. Lord to Ananias** C. Saul to Ananias D Lord to Saul

13. How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can anyone enter a second time into the mother's womb? Who asked Jesus these questions? L14 P59

A. Samaritan woman B. King David C. Zachariah **D. Nicodemus**

14. Name the Levite from Cyprus who sold all his property? (L 15)

A. Simon **B. Barnabas** C. Ananias D. James

15. On the way to crucifixion, Jesus passed a man named _____ who was compelled to carry the Cross, L 18P75.

A. Saul from Jerusalem **B. Simon from Cyrene**
C. Joseph from Bethlehem D. Joseph from Arimathea

16. During the crucifixion, there was darkness from ____ to _____. L 18 P 77

A. Noon to five o'clock. B. Three o'clock to noon.
C. Five o'clock to noon **D. Noon to three o'clock**

17. When Jesus first appeared to the disciples in the locked room early Easter Sunday, _____ was not there. L 19 79
- A. Thomas** B. Peter C. Andrew D. James
18. The book of Acts is written by _____, and begins with an address to _____. L20
- A. Luke; Paul B. Paul, Luke C. Paul, Theophilus, **D. Luke, Theophilus**
19. On his final trip to Rome, _____ and some prisoners got on a ship with centurion named Julius.
- A. Peter **B. Paul** C. John D. Mark L22 P91
20. When Paul and Barnabas spoke about the word of God to the governor, _____ was trying to deter the governor from faith and became temporarily blind. L 23 P 93
- A. Lucius B. Manaen **C. Elymas** D. Sergius
21. _____ was a leader of the church in Antioch: L23 P95
- A. Barnabas B. Lucius & Manaen C. Simeon called Niger **D. All of the above**
22. The night before Peter was to be brought out to be tried by Herod, he was bound to _____ guards. L24 P 99
- A. 7 B. 2 C. 1 D. 5**
- Question issue (Please give 1 mark to all students)**
23. The Book of Revelation is considered as a _____ literature. L25 103
- A. Prophetic B. Torah C. Ketuvim **D. Apocalyptic**
24. James, the brother of _____, became the bishop of the church in Jerusalem. L 24
- A. John B. Mark **C. Jesus** D. Thomas
25. The first apostle to ever address Jesus as God was: L 19 P 80
- A. Thomas** B. Simon Peter C. John D. Andrew

Section 2 – Answer any 4 of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5 = 20 points)

- 1. Describe the story of Ananias and Sapphira. What was the sin Ananias and Sapphira**

made? What lesson can we learn from this story? L 15 P 64

Ananias and Sapphira sold one piece of property and brought the money to the apostles. However, they kept a portion of the money to themselves. The sin they committed was not greed or selfishness but lying to the Holy Spirit that they gave the whole amount of money when they actually kept part of it for themselves. The lesson that we learn is the importance of unity in the church and sharing possessions. As well as the importance of fully submitting the Lord.

2. What are the three main features of God's covenant to Abraham? Explain each? What was Abraham's reaction to the thought that a ninety year – old woman (Sarai) would bear a child? L 7 P29, P32

The promise of land- Abraham left all that he had and was faithful and obedient to the Lord
The promise of descendants- I will make you a great nation and make your name great.
The promise of blessing and redemption- I will bless those who bless you, and the one curse you I will curse: and in you all the families of earth shall be blessed

Abraham fell on his face and laughed, and said himself "Can a child be born to a man who is 100 years old."

3. Explain the redemptive actions of the cross. What do the three crosses represent? What happened during Jesus crucifixion? L18 P77

God paid the ultimate price with the sacrifice of his only son who suffered and died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sin.

The cross of rebellion – Thief on one side, who mocked at Jesus.
The cross of repentance – The thief who asked for the forgiveness
The cross of redemption - The cross of Jesus

There was darkness from noon to three o'clock. The curtain in the temple was torn in two. There was an earthquake. Tombs were opened and saints who had died came to life.

4. What are some characteristics of New Jerusalem? Why is the new earth and new heaven no longer separated? How does Christ make us new currently and how will he make us new when He comes?. L25 P 104

There is no sorrow, no darkness and no sin. This holy city New Jerusalem is perfect, sinless, pure and a community of righteousness. It is also a perfect community of the people of God.

God has always desired to live in close fellowship with us and so He will be when He lives among us.

If we welcome Christ as our savior, we are made in to a new creation currently. When He comes again he will make us spiritual, morally, physically and bodily new and our relationship with Him will be new and glorious.

5. Explain the spiritual transformation that took place in Saul's life? L13 P56

Saul was on his way to Damascus when he saw a bright light and he was blinded. A voice spoke out and said "Saul, Saul why are you persecuting me." Saul realized at that the moment he was persecuting the very same God that he was zealously concerned about. Saul spent three days in prayer. It was a very important moment in Saul's life. It shows how much God is willing to use people for his glory even if they are the same people that are bringing so much pain to his people. God knew that Saul was misdirected and was truly searching and trying to protect what Saul was the truth. God knew this zeal would be tremendously beneficial for the growth of the kingdom of God.

God had a plan to use Saul to serve the kingdom of God

6. What are the three obstacles that can prevent us from inheriting eternal life that we learned about the story of Jesus and the Rich Man? What did Jesus tell the Richman to do? And why did this make him sad? L17 P 71 & 72

Disobedience to God and his commandments

Temptation of idolizing material wealth and all the values associated with that

Not giving God the pre-eminence that is reserved for Him and Him alone in your heart

Jesus told the rich man to sell what you own and give the money to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven then come follow me.

The Richman had many possessions.

Section 3 - Memory verses. Complete any 5 of the following memory verses as recorded in NRSV Version. 5 x 5 points total 25 points

1. After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great. **Genesis 15:1. L4 P 18**
2. But Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. **Isaiah 40:31 L10 P 45**

3. Jesus looking at him, loved him and said, “you lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me. **Mark 10:21 L17 P74**
4. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witness in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. **Acts 1:8 L20 P 85**
5. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying ‘I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, so that you may bring Salvation to the ends of the earth’. **Acts 13:47 L23 P97**
6. Go and learn what this means, I desire, mercy, not sacrifice, For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners. **Mathew 9:13 L8 P37**
7. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. **Genesis 17:7 L7 P33**

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

1. Eucharist is another term for _____ **C MTFV P198**
 A. Liturgy B. Alter **C. Holy Qurbana** D. Baptism
2. The concise statement of our faith is proclaimed in the
 A. Liturgy **B. Nicene Creed** C. Sermon d. Taksa
B MTFV P209
3. All the decisions affecting the Mar Thoma Church are made by the P200
 A. Sabha Council B. Diocesan Episcopa
C. Sabha Pradhinithi Mandalam D. Diocesan Council
4. The term laity is derived from the Greek word “Laos” meaning: P204
A. People B. Vicar C. Bishop D. Deacon
5. How many sacraments does the Mar Thoma church recognize? P199
 A. 5 B.3 C.8 **D.7**
6. The _____ symbolizes the offering of our prayers to God. P199
 A. Candle B. Pulpit C. Alter **D. Incense**
7. What were the two forms of Ancient Christianity? 197

A. Eastern and Western

B. Southern and Northern

C. Southern and Western

D. Northern and Eastern

8. The Bishops wear Masnapsa on their head as a sign of _____ P200
A. Position B. Power **C. Total Submission** D. Episcopacy

9. As Marthomites, we believe the _____ to be the final authority of our faith
A. Bible B. Nicene Creed C. Altar D. Synod

10. Who has the power to send back the decisions of the Mandalam for reconsideration?
A. Episcopal Synod B. Sabha Council C Bishop **D. Metropolitan**

Section 5 – Mar Thoma History Short Answer. Answer any two of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (2 x 5pts = 10 pts Total)

1. List any five reformations Abraham Malpan made in the Malankara church. (5 marks) P211

- Started celebration of Holy Qurbana in Malayalam (until then liturgy was in Syriac)
- Removed sections from Thaksa (Communion service book) that were not based on the Word of God
- Decided to serve bread and wine separately
- Made the liturgy as a book available for the use of common people to deepen their understanding and participation in worship
- Stopped the practice of private confession with the priest and receiving absolution before communion.
- Holy Communion is for participation and not for worship
- Removed prayers for the dead.

2. Mar Thoma Church is a unique church, but we are not an exclusive church. Explain the uniqueness of Mar Thoma church? P195

The Mar Thoma church forms part of the ancient church of Malabar. It has been recognized as a reformed church. It has a blending of two tracts, namely the Eastern church features and reformation ideals. These features of the church points to its uniqueness when compared to other churches. Church also maintain relations with other Christian denominations. The church affirms self as an essential part of the one holy, catholic and apostolic church. Reform, revival and spirit of ecumenism joined together in molding the church as a unique church.

3. The worship service includes symbolism, vestments and gestures. What does each of them represent? P199 Symbolism (3)

Altar represents the Throne of God or Table of Life
Candles represent the presence of God (the source of light)
Incense represents the sweet-smelling sacrifice rising to God

Vestments (1)

Vestments represents the fight against the power of darkness

Gestures (1)

Gestures represents external expressions of the inner experience of penitence, submission and respect

SECTION 6 Essay—choose one of the following two topics to write an essay not exceeding 100

words. (1x10 pts=10 pts).

1. Describe David's diabolical act? (2 marks) **Lesson 6**

Who did God send to warn David? Describe the story of the rich man and poor man and relate it to David's situation (5 marks)

What was David's response? How did he repent? (2 marks)

What lesson did you learn from this story? (1 marks)

David fell in love with a married woman named Bathsheba. She was the wife of Uriah, a loyal soldier. David devised a secret plan to have him killed in battle against the Ammonites. When the plan was completed, David took Bathsheba as his wife. This was David's moment of weakness and he fell into sin.

God sent Nathan, the prophet, to warn David. He told David about the parable of a rich man stealing a lamb from a poor man. The rich man had many flocks of lambs, the poor man had one lamb. One day a visitor came to visit the rich man. The rich man took the lamb from the poor man and prepared that for his guest instead of taking a lamb from his flock.

Nathan told David he was like the rich man. God had anointed him over all of Israel; given him rule over Saul and his house and his wives. Yet he defiled God by killing Uriah and taking his wife as David's own. David was remorseful. David spent the next seven days repenting, fasting and praying for his son to be spared by God.

There are many temptations in this world. We may think that our minor actions may not amount up to much but God sees all. Our little actions today may have great consequences in the future either for us or our families. Salvation is available through true repentance.

OR

2. Explain why Peter was arrested by King Herod and state his miraculous escape from prison
Lesson 24

King Herod wanted to break the church and gain the favor of the Jewish people. When he killed James, the brother of John, the Jews were pleased. Herod thought if he also killed

Peter, he would gain even more favor among the Jews. So he had Peter arrested. Peter was one of the early leaders of the church after Jesus' death. He was put in prison, bound to 2 chains between 2 guards, with 2 more guards outside his cell. Herod didn't want him to escape under any circumstances. God's people prayed fervently for Peter's safe return. One night, an angel of the Lord appeared and woke Peter up by shining a light into the cell. Immediately, his chains fell off and the angel guided him out of prison. Peter thought he was dreaming at first, but he knew that the Lord had sent the angel to rescue him from Herod and the Jewish people.

Peter went to the house of Mary where lots of people were praying for him. Everyone was amazed to see him. Peter explained how God rescued him.

In the story of Peter's prison break, Peter escaped against all odds. Herod tried to break the church and gain favor of the Jewish people. But God had different plans for Peter. Peter had the support of God's people who powerfully prayed for him in his time of need. God's rescue of Peter is also the result of answered prayers.