



MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE

2021 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)

1. Samuel was dedicated to God from birth by his parents and He grew up under the leadership of _____, the High Priest. (L 2 P7)
A. Elkanah
B. Eli
C. Hannah
D. Saul
2. Bathsheba was the wife of _____ the Hittite. (L 6 P26)
A. Jesse
B. Lot
C. Uriah
D. Jeremiah
3. Why did Abraham and his children have to get circumcised? (L7 P31)
A. It was done for medical reasons.
B. It was done as a sign of the covenant between God and Abraham.
C. Because Sarah wanted Abraham to have his descendants circumcised.
D. None of the above
4. The disciple named _____ is also known as Bartholomew. (L8 P36)
A. Mathew
B. Peter
C. Nathanael
D. Thomas
5. Abram received his calling from God at ____ years old.
a. **75**
b. 85
c. 90
d. 100

Ans- a.75 (lesson 7, page 30)



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6. What does the term maskil mean?
- a. The gospels
 - b. To be holy
 - c. A Proverb
 - d. A psalm that teaches us something

Ans- d. A psalm that teaches us something (lesson 9, page 40)

7. What does the name Ishmael means?
- a. God is omnipresent
 - b. God listens
 - c. Seek God
 - d. All the above

Ans – b. God listens (lesson 5, page 22)

8. What does Ananias mean?
- a. Jehovah Jireh
 - b. Jehovah is gracious
 - c. Anything
 - d. None of the above

Ans- b. Jehovah is gracious (L- 15, page 65)

9. Abraham was buried in the cave of _____ that he had purchased to bury his wife.
- a. Mamre
 - b. Machpelah
 - c. Pisgah
 - d. Hermon

Ans- b. Machpelah (L7pg32)

10. _____ is known as the ‘Apostle to the Gentiles’.(L13 P56)

- A. Stephen
- B. Timothy
- C. Paul
- D. Peter

11. Who asked Jesus about how anyone can be reborn after growing old? (L14 P60)

- A. Peter



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B. B. Thomas

C. C. David

D. **D. Nicodemus**

12. Name the Levite from Cyrene who sold a field and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet. (L15 63)

A. John

B. B. Aaron

C. **C. Barnabas**

D. D. Paul

13. The man who came to Jesus to learn about how to inherit eternal life went back disappointed because he had great _____ (L17 P73)

A. anger

B. B. power

C. **C. wealth**

D. D. none of the above

14. During the crucifixion of Jesus, there was darkness from _____ (L18 P77)

A. Noon to five in the evening B. Three in the afternoon to midnight

C. Noon to three O'clock

D. Dawn to dusk

15. The first apostle to address Jesus as God was _____ (L19 P79)

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

16. When the people of Israel asked for a King to rule over them, which prophet spoke to them about not forgetting God?

A. Ethan **B. Samuel** C. Jonah Elijah

ANS: B (L2 P6)

17. The three crosses at the site of crucifixion, symbolize:

a. Rebellion, redemption, and repentance

b. Repentance, renewal, and rebellion



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c. Readmission, renewal, and redemption

d. Repentance, rebellion, and renewal

Ans-A, (L18P77)

18. The book of Acts was written by Luke and begins with him addressing _____

a. Babylonians

b. Romans

c. Egyptians

d. Theophilus

D, (L20 P83)

19. Which of the following is NOT one of the significances of tearing of temple curtain at crucifixion of Christ?

a. Separation between Man and God has been removed

b. Jesus is the high priest who intercedes for us

c. Sin has been removed because of sacrifice of Jesus

d. only the High Priest could approach God and intercede

D, (L18P77)

20. 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

Ans-B, (L22 P90)

21. 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.

a. Lucius



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- b. Manaen
- c. Elymas
- d. Sergius

Ans-C, L23 P96

22. The Book of Revelation is considered as a _____ literature.

- a. Prophetic
- b. Torah
- c. Ketuvim
- d. Apocalyptic

Ans- D, L25 P103

23. Which Psalm is considered as David's confession of his sins? **ANS: A (L6 P27)**

- A. Psalm 51
- B. Psalm 48
- c. Psalm 23
- D. Psalm 90

24. When Jesus first appeared to the disciples in the locked room early Easter Sunday, _____ was not there.

- a. Thomas**
- b. Mary
- c.. Peter
- d. Andrew

A, L19 P 80

25. Jesus told the disciple after His resurrection that once they receive the power through the Holy Spirit, "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all ____ and ____ and to the ends of the earth."

- A. Judea and Rome
- B. Samaria and Corinth
- c. Rome and Corinth
- d. Judea and Samaria

D (L20 P82)



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

1. Who was Samuel? What did the people want him to do for them when they saw King Nahash of the Amorites come against them? Why was Samuel grieved at the people's choice? **(L2, p7)**

Samuel was a prophet of God who had been dedicated to God from birth by his parents.

The people of Israel asked Samuel to appoint a king to reign over them, like the nations around them.

Samuel was grieved at the people's choice because the Lord wanted to continually guide Israel and be their Savior and Redeemer and king.

2. Why did God send Nathan to David after his adultery with Bathsheba (1 pt)? What parable did Nathan tell David to make him aware of his sin (3 pts)? What was David's response when he realized that he had sinned (1 pt)? **(L6, p26)**

God sent Nathan the prophet to warn David. He told him the parable of a rich man stealing a lamb from a poor man. David then repented and acknowledged his sin against the Lord.

3. What are the 3 promises of God's Covenant with Abraham? **(L7, page 32),**

Answer:

the promise of land; the promise of descendants; and the promise of blessing and redemption

4. Why does Esther avoid the king? (2.5 pts) What was Mordecai's response to Esther? (2.5 pts) **(L11, pages 47-48).**

Answer: 1. She does not want to tell the King she is a Jew and 2. She fears the law that anyone entering the inner courts without being invited would be put to death.

Mordecai reminds her that she should not hide under the protection of palace and escape the edict. Furthermore, if she did not step up, God would deliver his people through other means and she along with her father's household may not survive the edict.

5. **State at least four characteristics of being born again? Lesson 14, page 61.**

Answer: 1) Being born again is about being a new creation in Christ. 2) It is about Christ living within you. 3) It is about being trans-formed. 4) A person who is 'born again' should no longer act or behave like they used to. 5) It is about Jesus



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having control over your life rather than yourself. 6) People should see a difference in those who are "born again". 7) We need to submit our lives to Christ in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

6. What did Ananias and Sapphira do after they sold a piece of property? (2.5 pts)
Why was their action judged harshly? (2.5 pts) **(L15, P64)**

Ananias and Sapphira sold a piece of property and brought the money to the apostles. However, they kept a portion of the money to themselves. They wanted to make themselves appear good in front of others. The sin they committed was not that of stinginess and holding back part of the money. Instead, it was that of lying to the Holy Spirit that they gave the whole amount of money when they actually kept part of it for themselves. Thus their action was judged harshly.

C. Memory verses -Answer any five out of six for full credit. Only the first 5 (five) will be considered for credit. (5 x 5 points = 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) Lesson 4, page 18

2. So she named **the Lord who spoke to her, "You are El-roi, for she said, "Have I really seen God and remained alive after seeing him "(Genesis 16:13) Lesson 5, page 23**

3. Go and learn **what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice ' . For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.** (Matthew 9:13) Lesson 8, page 37

4. In him we have **redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.** Ephesians 1:7 **(L18, p77)**

5. Finally, all of you, **have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind.** 1 Peter 3:8 **(L15, p66)**

6. 6. For if you keep **silence for such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this** (Esther 4:14) **(L10)**

7. Jesus answered him, **"Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."** John 3:3 **(L14, p61)**

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. Which of the following is not a sacrament? **(MTC FV p199)**



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A. Holy Communion B. Baptism **C. Offertory** D. Unction

2. The Mar Thoma church has _____ forms of ordained ministry. (MTC FV p200)

- A. one
- B. two
- C. three**
- D. five

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 _____ represents the 'Throne of God' or 'Table of Life'. (MTC FV p199)

- A. pulpit
- B. vestment
- C. candle
- D. altar**

5. Eucharist is another term for _____ (MTC FV p198)

- A. Liturgy
- B. Altar
- C. Holy Qurbana**
- D. Baptism

6. The concise statement of our faith is proclaimed in the

- A. Liturgy
- B. Nicene Creed**
- C. Sermon
- d. Taksa

B MTFV P209

7. The term laity is derived from the Greek word "Laos" meaning: P204

- A. People**
- B. Vicar



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C. Bishop

D. Deacon

8. How many sacraments does the Mar Thoma church recognize? P199

A. 5

B.3

C.8

D.7

9. The _____ symbolizes the offering of our prayers to God. P199

A. Candle

B. Pulpit

C. Altar

D. Incense

10.The Bishops wear Masnapsa on their head as a sign of _____ P200

A. Position

B. Power

C. Total Submission

D. Episcopacy

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 the seven sacraments in the Mar Thoma church. (MTC FV p199)

The Mar Thoma church recognizes seven sacraments. They are

- 1. Baptism**
- 2. Confirmation**
- 3. Confession**
- 4. Holy Qurbana**
- 5. Marriage**
- 6. Ordination**
- 7. Extreme Unction**

These features identify the Eastern orientation of the Mar Thoma church.



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2. List any five reformations Abraham Malpan made in the Malankara church. (MTC FV 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**

3. List and explain any five elements or components of worship used in the Mar Thoma Church (MTC FV P198-199)

- **Liturgy – Eucharist (Holy Qurbana) is the central part of it**
- **Symbolism – place of worship is build east-west, the altar (Madhbaha) towards east, direction of sun, a symbol of risen Christ, the son of righteousness and His second coming. Altar represents the “Throne of God” or the “Table of life”**
- **Candles – symbolizing the presence of God who is the source of light, also reminding we are the light of the world**
- **Incense – symbolizes the offering of our prayers to God as sweet smelling sacrifice**
- **Vestments – represent the fight against the powers of darkness (Ephesians 6:14)**
- **Gestures – Represent the external expression of the inner experience of penitence, submission and respect in the presence of God**

SECTION 6 - Essay—choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in 150-250

words. (1x10 pts=10 pts).

1. **Who was Saul? What was the life changing experience that happened to him on his way to Damascus? Explain the spiritual transformation that took place in his life. (L13, p55-57)**

Saul was a devout Jew who was very proud of his Jewish heritage. His passion for his religion made him blind towards the teachings of Jesus Christ. He was determined to wipe out Christianity from the face of the earth. So he obtained permission from the High Priest to visit Damascus and take the Christians from there as prisoners to Jerusalem.



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As he was approaching Damascus a bright light from heaven flashed around him and he was blinded. He also heard a voice speaking to him, “Saul, Saul why do you persecute me?” When he realized that it was Jesus whom he was persecuting, his life was changed forever. Saul was blind for three days after which God arranged His servant Ananias to help Saul regain his sight and prepare Saul for His ministry.

Saul who had set out to destroy early Christians became a great advocate for Christianity. Saul’s radical transformation changed the history of the Christian church. He became the greatest missionary of all time. God used Saul’s talents, religious knowledge, the prestige and power he gained through Roman citizenship, and his secular knowledge to gain more people to His kingdom.

2. How did God use Joshua to win the battle of Jericho? What was their battle strategy? Whose lives did they spare and why? (L10, p 42-44)

The Lord told Joshua that he had handed Jericho over to the Israelites along with its king and soldiers. God instructed the Israelites to march around the walls of Jericho. They circled the city as a procession. The order of the procession was as follows: soldiers, priests, the ark, and then more soldiers. The ark represented the presence of the Lord. The blowing of the trumpets in Israel reminded the people of God’s activity for them. The warriors and the priests were to remain silent as they circled around the city each day except on the seventh day. God evidently used this strategy to impress on the people of Jericho as well as on the Israelites, that the deliverance was not by human might or power, but by the spirit of God. God commanded the final shout on the seventh day to announce the destruction of the wall. It was the shout of joy and victory for the Israelites. The uniqueness of this approach impressed upon the Israelites their reliance on God for the victory. It involved incredible faith and obedience.

The Israelites were then to burn the cities and kill the inhabitants including the cattle. The only objects they were to spare were metal, gold, silver and vessels from bronze and iron. These were to be placed in the treasury of the tabernacle. But Rahab the prostitute, with all who belonged to her, were spared by Joshua because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.



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