

MAR THOMA SUNDAY SCHOOLS  
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE  
DIOCESAN EXAMINATION 2009  
SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009

Grade : 9

Duration 90 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 100

**ANSWER KEY**

A. Select the most appropriate response for the following questions. Circle the alphabet of the correct response. (25x1=25 points)

1. Psalm 104
  - A. portrays hand work of God and His laws.
  - B. reveals God's blessings to humans.
  - C. is a meditation psalm of God's majesty, providence and glory**
  - D. All the above.

**Ans: C (L-1/P-11)**
2. Which one for the following can be called the proclamation of the faith of Eastern Churches?
  - A. Creed of Athanasius.
  - B. Apostolic Creed
  - C. St. James liturgy
  - D. Nicene Creed**

**Ans: D (L-5/P-24)**
3. The story of Jonah revolves around these two cities
  - A. Nineveh and Tarshish**
  - B. Tarshish and Joppa
  - C. Jerusalem and Jericho
  - D. Jericho and Joppa

**Ans: A (L-26/P-96)**
4. The following statements are true about Psalm 42 except
  - A. It is called the psalm of solitude.
  - B. King David wrote psalm 42.**
  - C. It is written by sons of Korah
  - D. It is the cry of despair of a man in exile.

**Ans: B (L-3/P-17)**
5. "Here I am the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word". Who made this statement?
  - A. John the Baptist
  - B. Mary, mother of Jesus**
  - C. Apostle Peter
  - D. Isaiah the prophet

**Ans: B (L-12/P-50)**

6. The word “agape” means  
 A. Meaningful worship  
 B. Meaningful fellowship  
 C. Sharing and caring  
 D. **Divine love** **Ans: D (L-29/P-110)**
7. The enemies of these two tribes offered to help when they heard that the exiles were building the temple for the Lord.  
 A. Issachar and Zebulun  
 B. **Judah and Benjamin** **Ans: B (L-7/P-30, Ezra 4:1)**  
 C. Simeon and Dan  
 D. Mannasseh and Ephraim
8. According to Jesus the true form of worship is  
 A. Synagogue worship  
 B. **Worship God in spirit and truth.** **Ans: B (L-18/P-70, John 4:23)**  
 C. Worship where God revealed Himself  
 D. All the above
9. All the following statements about King David are true except  
 A. David and his family were forced to flee to the Judean wilderness and for a period of time was unable to reclaim his throne.  
 B. David’s own son rebelled against him and toppled him from his throne.  
 C. **The relationship between God and David was not a personal one.**  
 D. Much of David’s early life has been spent as a shepherd in the wilderness of Judea. **Ans: C (L-6/P-27)**
10. Which of the following statement is true about Timothy  
 A. **Timothy received the gift of God for his ministry when Paul laid his hands on him.** **Ans: A (L-21/P-80)**  
 B. Timothy was Paul’s son.  
 C. Timothy’s parents were Jews  
 D. Paul refused to circumcise Timothy.
11. After creation, God put man in the Garden of Eden with the expectation that humans would be  
 A. Good consumers  
 B. Good masters  
 C. **Good stewards and caretakers** **Ans: C (L-1/P-12)**  
 D. All the above
12. He was neither a prophet by profession nor the son of a prophet but went to prophecy in Bethel as directed by God.  
 A. Elijah  
 B. **Amos** **Ans: B (L-9/P-38)**  
 C. Ezra  
 D. Jonah

13. Whom did Paul refer to when he says that this woman served him as his own mother?

- A. Priscilla
- B. Lydia
- C. Phobe

**D. Mother of Rufus**

**Ans: D (L-16/P-63)**

14. Which is the most basic and the oldest institution established by God?

- A. Church
- B. Home**
- C. Government
- D. Synagogue

**Ans: B (L-28/P-104)**

15. The widow at Zarepath realized that Elijah was a man of God when

- A. she saw that the oil and flour would not dry out
- B. she heard about the miracles done by Elijah

**C. Elijah brought back her son from dead**

**Ans: C (L-4/P-20,**

D. Elijah told her that he is a prophet

**1King 17:24)**

16. Which one of the following was the primary requirement that Apostles set for the choosing of the seven to serve in the church?

**A. They had to be men of good repute and full of the spirit and wisdom.**

**Ans: A (L-22/P-83)**

- B. They had to have walked with Jesus when he was on earth.
- C. They had to be leaders in their community
- D. They had to be famous and well liked by others.

17. Who is the founder of “Habitat for Humanity International”?

**A. Millard Fuller**

**Ans: A (L-10/P-40)**

- B. William Carey
- C. Jimmy Carter
- D. George Muller

18. According to Paul, meaning of the word righteousness is

- A. To be considered innocent and forgiven
- B. To be made free and saved
- C. To be forgiven and made free

**Ans: D(L-15/P-60)**

**D. To be considered innocent and to be made free**

19. He lived in the wilderness of Judea, clothed in camel’s hair, wore a leather belt and ate locust and honey. Who was he?

A. Micah the prophet

**B. John the Baptist**

**Ans: B (L-25/P-93)**

- C. Moses
- D. Elijah

20. What took place when Joshua and the Israelites captured the city of Jericho?
- A. The people, priests and the warriors marched around the city of Jericho once each day for six days and seven times on the seventh day.
  - B. The priests carried the “Ark of Covenant”.
  - C. The people shouted and the priests blew the rams’ horns.
  - D. All the above**
- Ans: D (L-11/P-46)**

21. Who was believed to be the first gentile who accepted Jesus Christ and later became a bishop of the church of Caesarea?
- A. Timothy
  - B. Barnabas
  - C. Cornelius**
  - D. Paul
- Ans: C (L-14/P-56)**

22. Which of the following pair sold a piece of land and kept back part of the money for themselves and the rest put at the feet of the Apostles?
- A. Ananias and Saphira**
  - B. Barnabas and Lydia
  - C. Aquilla and Priscilla
  - D. Nichodemus and Mary
- Ans: A (L-24/P-91)**

23. Who were the two groups of helpless victims of oppression at Micah’s time?
- A. Women and slaves
  - B. Women and children of lower class**
  - C. Men and women
  - D. Men and slaves
- Ans: B (L-27/P-102)**

24. William Carey, one of the pioneer missionaries to India
- A. Translated the Bible in to many major Indian languages and dialects.
  - B. Established educational institutions for the future of India.
  - C. Arranged for seeds and plants from Europe for cultivation in India.
  - D. All the above**
- Ans: D (L-2/P-13)**

25. He will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.
- A. Moses
  - B. Micah
  - C. Jesus
  - D. John the Baptist**
- Ans: D (L-17/P-65, Luke 1:17)**

**B.** Answer any Five (5) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. If you answer all six, only the first 5 will be credited unless indicated otherwise. **(5x5=25 points)**

1. Who was Amos and what does his name mean? What was his message to the house of Israel?

Amos was a shepherd and pruner of sycamore trees. He was neither a prophet by profession nor the son of a prophet. His name means 'carrier' or 'burden-bearer'.  
**(2 points)**

God called Amos to go to north of Bethel to preach God's judgment and confront the evil head-on. His message was, the day of the Lord is coming. It will not bring blessing but will bring terrible judgment, defeat and conquest by Assyrians. Destruction and exile will be there. The hope of Israel is to repent, return to God, faithful living and justice to society. Amos warns Israel not to put confidence in natural defense.  
**(3 points)**

2. Families are the building blocks of the society. What are the 5 special features of Christian families? Write a sentence or two about each one.
  1. Christian family is a **holy relationship**. Home is the first and the most basic institution established by God.
  2. **Christian family is a school** where the children are trained the way they should go. Virtues like discipline and moral values are learned at home.
  3. Family is where the **formation of faith** takes place. Children learn about Christ at home and also they learn to honor their parents through that faith.
  4. Family is the **great place for effective communication**. Coming together and exchanging ideas and views leads to strong and healthy relationships.
  5. Each member of the family **leads other members of the family to God** and together they experience the presence of God. **( 1 point each )**
3. Mar Thoma Church is an "Eastern Reformed Church". Briefly explain its eastern character as well as the reformed ideals.

The Mar Thoma Church finds its place among that family of churches called " Lesser Eastern Churches". The church is oriental in worship. It is autonomous in administration and missionary in action. The church follows an orthodox liturgy and a catholic missionary and evangelistic approach. The church affirms itself as an essential part of the one holy, catholic and apostolic church.  
**(3 points)**

Reformation and revival movements brought out an added sense of

responsibility for the spiritual and moral welfare of the church and its people. Reform, revival and spirit of ecumenism joined together in molding the Mar Thoma Church as it is seen today. When it comes into contact with Western Christianity, it blended as much relevant aspects to become an “Eastern Reformed Church”. **(MTC/ P-128-129)** **(2 points)**

4. What were the expectations of the Jews about Messiah? What did they actually experience in Jesus , who is the Messiah?

At the time of the birth of Jesus Christ, Israel was under the Roman rule. The Jews were expecting a political Messiah of crown and staff of power and throne. They were expecting the Messiah to be born as a king, who would fight for them, defeat their enemies and establish the kingdom. They expected the Messiah to deliver them from their enemies and enable them to have a peaceful and prosperous life thereafter. **(2 points)**

In reality Jesus, real Messiah, was born in the lowly circumstances of the manger. He came to the world with the message of peace and love. He preached the message of loving one’s own enemy. He was a friend of the poor and oppressed. He preached against the social evils prevalent during his time.

**(L-17/P66-67)** **(3 points)**

5. Who wrote psalm 42 and what is special about this psalm? Explain the obstacle the psalmist faces and the message he delivers through this psalm.

Psalm 42 was written by sons of Korah. The psalm can be called the “psalm of solitude”. It is the cry of despair of a man in exile. **(1 point)**

The psalmist seems to be facing obstacles in his life. He might be in a state or condition that prevents him from going to God’s temple and experience the presence of God. He was a laughing stock before his friends and neighbors.

He might be suffering from some disease or similar condition. **(1point)**

Psalmist says that only God can quench the thirst in man. Just like a man can not survive with out air and water, man needs the presence of God for living an abundant life. Presence of living God is always refreshing to human beings. Feeling the presence of God is not just a personal experience to the psalmist, but it is a collective experience for the whole congregation.

**(L-3/P-17-18)** **(3 points)**

6. Briefly describe the life style and fellowship of believers of early church.

The members of early church continue to live together and shared their belongings. They considered nothing as private. They sold their property and distributed the money among the needy. They shared not only their money

and their needs but their joy and sorrows. By sharing they showed love and concern for other believers **(2 points)**

The early church experienced meaningful fellowship (Koinonia).

They prayed together with one heart and mind. They experienced the joy of rejoicing and praising God. They shared the joy, sorrow, fame and glory with others. They earned the good will of other people. **(3 points)**

**(L-22/P-84-85)**

C. Memory Verses. Complete any Five (5) of the following memory verses only.

the first five will be corrected for full credits. **(5x5=25 points)**

1. “Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stands in vain”. **(Psalm 127:1)**
2. He answered; Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, with all your strength and with your entire mind; and, Love your neighbor as you love yourself”. **(Luke 10:27)**
3. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we all are witness of the fact. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. **(Act 2:32-33)**
4. For these commands are a lamp, this teaching is a light, and the corrections of discipline are the way to life. **(Proverbs 6:23)**
5. He tends his flock like a Shepherd; He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young. **(Isaiah 40:11)**
6. “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God-this is your spiritual act of worship”. **(Romans 12:1)**

#### **D. The Mar Thoma Church-Our Foundation and Vision**

Choose the most appropriate response for the following. **(10x1=10 points)**

1. “The Kottayam Trio” (Joseph Fenn, Benjamin Bailey and Henry Baker) made invaluable contributions to the church in Kerala in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Evangelism



9. Following statements are true about Abraham Malpan except:  
 A. Started celebration of Holy Qurbana in Malayalam  
 B. Revised the 'Thaksa'.  
**C. Was the first Bishop of Mar Thoma Church. Ans: C (MTC/P-130)**  
 D. Stopped reciting the "Hail Mary Prayer in the services.
10. The first Ecumenical Council was called in AD 325 by the Roman Emperor  
 A. Augustus Caesar  
 B. Alexander the Great  
 C. Cyrus  
**D. Constantine the Great                      Ans: D (MTC/P-140)**

E. Write an essay in about 200 words on **Any One** of the following topics. Essay should have an introduction and a conclusion. **(1x15=15 points)**

1. Write an essay on "Vision leads to Mission". Construct your essay based on (a) vision of Peter (b) vision of Cornelius (c) what led to their vision (d) how the vision changed Peter's mission (e) our mission in the pluralistic society we live.

**OR**

2. "Commitment to Christ will involve suffering and hardship". Include the following points in your essay (a) Paul's experiences as a soldier of Christ (b) Paul's attitude towards suffering (c) life lessons we learn from suffering.

1. Vision leads to Mission		
Introduction	1 point	
Peter's vision	3 points	
Cornelius vision	2 points	
Reason behind the vision	1 point	
Change in Peter's mission	3 points	
Our mission in the pluralistic society	3 points	
Conclusion	2 points	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 points</b>	<b>(Lesson 14/P-56-58)</b>

**OR**

2. Commitment to Christ will involve suffering and hardship		
Introduction	1 point	
Paul's experience as a soldier of Christ	4 points	
Paul's attitude towards suffering	3 points	
Life lessons we learn from suffering	5 points	
Conclusion	2 points	
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 point</b>	<b>(lesson 20/P-77-78)</b>

