

CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

*(May not be taken with Islamic Religious Studies and /or
West African Traditional Religion)*

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

At the end of the three year course of study, the candidate will be expected to;

1. have knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the religious, cultural, historical and social background of the biblical materials prescribed to be studied;
2. understand the nature of biblical moral lessons in the selected passages/themes from the Bible and the extent of their relevance and possible application to present day social, political, religious and cultural life and existence;
3. identify difficulties involved in the application of healthy attitudes, concepts and skills acquired from the Bible in ensuring peaceful co-existence and national development;
4. demonstrate adequate preparation for higher education through critical thinking and independent work.

SCHEME OF EXAMINATION

There will be two papers, Papers 1 and 2, both of which will be a composite paper to be taken at one sitting.

PAPER 1: Will consist of fifty multiple choice objective questions all of which must be answered within 1 hour for 40 marks.

PAPER 2: Will consist of nine essay-type questions. Candidates will be required to answer four questions within 2 hours for 60 marks.

The questions will be arranged in sections as follows:

Section A: Themes from the Old Testament - four questions.

Section B: Themes from the Synoptic Gospels and the Acts of the Apostle - three questions.

Section C: Themes from selected Epistles - two questions.

Candidates will be required to answer four questions in all, choosing at least one question from each section and the fourth question from **either** Section A or Section B.

The Revised Standard Version of the Bible will be used in setting of questions.

DETAILED SYLLABUS

SECTION A

Themes from the Old Testament

| S/N | CONTENTS | NOTES |
|-----|--|--|
| 1. | The Sovereignty of God (a) God, the Creator (b) God, the Controller of the universe | Gen. 1; 2 |
| 2. | Leadership roles (a) Joseph (b) Moses (c) Joshua (d) Deborah | Gen. 37; 1-28, 41: 1-57, 45: 1-15 Exodus 1;2;3;4:1-17;5: 1-5, 22-23; 6: 28-30, 7; 1-7; 14;32: 1-14 Numbers 13:1-33; 14: 1-19 Numbers 27: 15-23 Joshua 1: 1-9 Judges 4 |
| 3. | Parental Responsibility Eli and Samuel | 1 Sam 2: 11-36; 3:1-18; 4: 10-22; 8: 1-5 |
| 4. | Consequences of Saul's disobedience | 1 Samuel 15: 1-26; 16: 14-23; 31: 1-13 |
| 5. | Submission to the will of God (a) David's submission to the will of God (b) David's sin, repentance and forgiveness | 1 Sam 26; 2 Sam 12: 15-25 |
| 6. | Making Decisions (a) Solomon's wisdom | 1 Kings 3: 3-28; 4: 29-34; 5: 1-12; 8 |

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| | (b) The unwise decision of Solomon and Rehoboam | 1 Kings 9; 15-23; 11: 1-13; 12:1-20 |
| 7 | Supremacy of God (a) Religious tensions during Ahab's reign (b) Elijah at Mount Carmel | 1 Kings 16: 29-34; 17: 1-7; 18: 1-19 1 Kings 18: 17-46 |
| 8 | Greed and its effects (a) Ahab (b) Gehazi | 1 Kings 21: 1-29 2 Kings 5 |
| 9. | Religious reforms The reign of King Josiah | 2 Kings 22; 23: 1-30 |
| 10. | Concern for one's Nation (a) The condition of the nation (b) Response to the state of the nation | 2 Kings 24; 25:1-17 Nehemiah 1; 2: 9-20; 4 Ezra 1; 4; 5: 1-2; 6: 13-22; 7: 1-10 |
| 11. | Faith in God (a) Faith and courage (b) Faith and power | Daniel 3 Daniel 6 |
| 12. | Nature of God (a) True religion and social justice – Amos (b) God's divine love – Hosea | Amos 2: 6-8; 4; 5: 1-24; 7: 10-17; 8 Hosea 1; 2; 3; 6 |

SECTION B

Themes from the Synoptic Gospels and the Acts Of The Apostles

| S/N | CONTENTS | NOTES |
|-----|--|--|
| 1. | Baptism and Temptation of Jesus (a) The Baptism (b) The Temptation | Matthew 3:13-17 Mark 1: 9-11; Luke 3: 21-22 Matthew 4: 1-11; Mark 1: 12-13; Luke 4:1-13 |
| 2. | The Call and Demands of Discipleship | Matthew 4: 18-25; 8: 18-22; 9:9-13 ; Mark 1: 16-20; 2: 13-17; Luke 5: 1-11; 9: 57-63; 14: 25-33 |
| 3. | Jesus' Teaching on forgiveness | Matthew 6: 12,14-15; 18:21-35 |
| 4. | The Trials of Jesus (a) Jesus at Gethsemane (b) Peter's Denials (c) Condemnation of Jesus | Matthew 26:36-56; Mk 14: 32-52; Matthew 26: 69-75; Mark 14: 66-72; Luke 22: 54-62 Matthew 26:47-75 Mark 14: 53-72; Luke 22: 66-71; 23: 1-12 |
| 5. | The Crucifixion, Burial and Resurrection of Jesus (a) Crucifixion and burial (b) The Resurrection | Matthew 27: 32-66 Mark 15: 16-47; Luke 23: 26-56 Matthew 28:1-10 Mark 16: 1-14; Luke 24: 1-35 |
| 6. | Fellowship in the Early Church | Acts 1:15-26; 2:41-47; 4:32-37; 5:1-11; 6:2-6 |

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| 7. | The Holy Spirit and the Mission to the Gentiles (a) The Holy Spirit at Pentecost (b) Mission to the Gentiles | Acts 2 Acts 9; 11:1-18 |
| 8. | Opposition to the Gospel Message | Acts 4:1-31; 5:17-42; 6:8-9; 7:1-10; 12:1-24 |

SECTION C

Themes from selected Epistles

| S/N | CONTENTS | NOTES |
|-----|--|---|
| 1. | The Epistles of James (a) Faith and Works (b) Impartiality (c) Effective Prayers | James 1: 2-27; 2:14-26 James 2:1-13 James 1: 2-8; 5:13-18 |
| 2. | The Epistle of 1 Peter (a) Good Citizenship (b) Christians Living among non-Christians (c) Interpersonal Relationship among Christians | 1 Peter 2:13-17 1 Peter 2:1-25 1 Peter 5:1-11 |

SUGGESTED READING LIST/REFERENCES

1. GENERAL

- (i) The Holy Bible (Revised Standard Version)
- (ii) New Clarendon Bible Series
- (iii) Bright, John: History and Religion of Israel
- (iv) Anderson, B. W.: The Living World of the Old Testament
- (v) Kee, H. C. & Young: The Living World of the New Testament
- (vi) Cambell, D. B. J.: The Synoptic Gospels
- (vii) New Bible Commentary – Cambridge.

2. (a) OLD TESTAMENT

Quarcoopome, T. N. O. : History and Religion of Israel AUP, Ibadan, 1986.

Dickson, Kwesi

- i. History and Religion of Israel
Darton L & T 1968
- ii. From the Institution of the Monarchy to the
fall of the Northern Kingdom

(b) NEW TESTAMENT

Guy, H. A.

- 1 The Life of Christ
2. The Acts of the Apostles

Pobee, John S Matthew and Mark for Schools

Dickson K .A The Gospel According to Luke (Accra,
Asempa Publishers)

Awolabi Joshua Simple Approach to Christian Religious
Knowledge Elis Association Lagos 2011