



**MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS**  
**DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE**  
**2016 Diocesan Exam**  
**Grade 5**

Time : 90 Minutes

Maximum Score : 100 Points

**Section 1 – Match the following. Write the appropriate alphabet of the matching word from Column B that corresponds with the word from Column A. (10 x 1pt each =10 pts Total)**

Column A	ANSWERS	Column B
1. Haran	<b>F (L1 P3)</b>	A. Mentor to Elisha
2. Jonah	<b>K (L4 P14)</b>	B. Jehoshaphat
3. Elijah	<b>A (L12 P46)</b>	C. Father-in-law of Moses
4. Jesus	<b>I (L18 P67)</b>	D. City of Ur
5. Jethro	<b>C (L6 P21)</b>	E. Judge
6. King of Judah	<b>B (L9 P32)</b>	F. Promised Land
7. Miriam	<b>J (L13 P49)</b>	G. Joseph
8. Abraham	<b>D (L3 P9)</b>	H. High Priest
9. Arimathea	<b>G (L15 P57)</b>	I. Messiah
10. Samson	<b>E (L10 P38)</b>	J. Leper
		K. Tarshish

**Section 2 – Fill in the Blanks. Write the appropriate word(s) in the blank space. (10 x 1pt each = 10 pts Total)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ was the chief prophet of Israel.  
**Elijah (L12 P46)**
- The second temptation that the devil challenged Jesus with was temptation of the “\_\_\_\_\_”.  
**Eyes (L18 P67)**
- The Lord provided quail and manna for the Israelites for \_\_\_\_\_ years despite their constant grumbling.  
**40 (L5 P18)**
- According to the \_\_\_\_\_ Law, the Jews were required to go to this place to celebrate festivals like Passover.  
**Old Testament (L16 P60)**
- \_\_\_\_\_ was Moses' father-in-law.  
**Jethro (L6 P21)**
- \_\_\_\_\_ is located in present day Israel.  
**Canaan (L1 P2)**
- Elijah met King Ahab and the prophets of Baal at \_\_\_\_\_.  
**Mount Carmel (L8 P29)**
- Isaiah was a \_\_\_\_\_ of the old Testament.

**Major Prophet (L15 P56)**

9. King \_\_\_\_\_'s devotion to God was so great that God performed a miracle that destroyed his enemies before his nation was attacked and rewarded him with a large amount of treasure.

**Jehoshaphat (L9 P34)**

10. Isaac means "\_\_\_\_\_."  
**"he laughed" (L3 P11)**

**Section 3 – Multiple Choice. Circle the most appropriate response for the following questions/statements. (20 x 1pt= 20 pts Total)**

1. John the Baptist was a traveling preacher who began his journey \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. at the Desert of Judea                      b. Galilee  
c. Jordan    d. from the wilderness near Jordan  
**A (L17 P64)**
2. Joshua is the son of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Nun                      b. Jephunneh                      c. Ishmael                      d. Dumah  
**A (L7 P27)**
3. Jesus was with \_\_\_\_\_ when he talked about the poor woman at the treasury.  
a. Mary    b. the Israelites  
c. his disciples                                      d. none of these  
**C (L20 P74)**
4. \_\_\_\_\_ was considered the God of storms.  
a. Zeus                      b. Asherah                      c. Thor                      d. Baal  
**D (L8 P30)**
5. Saul was the \_\_\_\_\_ King of Israel.  
a. only                      b. first                      c. best                      d. worst  
**B (L14 P52)**
6. Which of these is **NOT** one of the reasons Abram and his nephew Lot decided to part ways?  
a. they didn't get along                      b. the servants were fighting  
c. too much wealth                              d. too many animals  
**A (L1 P2)**
7. Who was Jesus' audience for the parable of the lost sheep?  
a. saints                      b. sinners                      c. shepherds                      d. tax collectors  
**B (L19 P21)**
8. Abraham pleaded with God \_\_\_\_\_ times to save the people of Sodom & Gomorrah because of his concern for his nephew Lot.  
a. three                      b. four                      c. five                      d. six  
**D (L2 P6)**

9. The poor widow's offering to the treasury was two of this type of coin (worth a penny).  
 a. bronze                      b. gold                      c. silver                      d. copper  
**D (L20 P3)**
10. Aaron and Miriam were jealous of Moses because he was appointed by God to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Israelites.  
 a. leader                      b. protector                      c. guide                      d. savior  
**A (L13 P48)**
11. Jehoshaphat was the King of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Judah                      b. Jordan                      c. Egypt                      d. Israel  
**A (L9 P34)**
12. The book of Psalms includes \_\_\_\_\_ songs.  
 a. 119                      b. 126                      c. 148                      d. 150  
**D (L11 P42)**
13. The people of \_\_\_\_\_ were Gentiles and the enemy of the Israelites.  
 a. Jerusalem                      b. Nineveh                      c. Tarshish                      d. Jordan  
**B (L4 P14)**
14. \_\_\_\_\_ means 'Salvation of the Lord.'  
 a. Jeremiah                      b. Hosanna                      c. Isaiah                      d. Elijah  
**C (L15 P56)**
15. Moses journeyed to the promised land with an estimated total of \_\_\_\_\_ million people.  
 a. 1-2                      b. 2-3                      c. 3-4                      d. 4-5  
**B (L5 P18)**
16. Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_ years old when he went to Jerusalem with his parents for the first time.  
 a. 10                      b. 11                      c. 12                      d. 13  
**C (L16 P60)**
17. Samson fought and destroyed many \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Israelites                      b. Philistines                      c. Hittites                      d. Canaanites  
**B (L10 P38)**
18. Elisha refused to leave Elijah despite being asked to leave \_\_\_\_\_ times throughout their journey.  
 a. two                      b. three                      c. five                      d. seven  
**B (L12 P46)**
19. King \_\_\_\_\_ is considered one of the most wicked kings that ever ruled Israel.  
 a. Ahaz                      b. Solomon                      c. Ahab                      d. Abimelech  
**C (L8 P30)**
20. When the devil tried to tempt Jesus with \_\_\_\_\_ if he jumped from the temple.  
 a. food                      b. water                      c. power                      d. wealth  
**C (L18 P67)**

**Section 4 – Short Answers. Answer any four (4) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5pts = 20 pts Total)**

1. Moses' title as the leader of the Israelites caused his brother Aaron and sister Miriam to become jealous.

What character trait is the main qualification for leadership in the Bible? **(1 pts)**

How did God view Aaron and Miriam's jealous grumblings? **1 pt.**

How did God display His anger towards Aaron and Miriam? **2 pts.**

When did God show mercy on Aaron and Miriam? **1 pt.**

**(L13 P49)**

- **Humility 1 pt.**
  - **God deemed Aaron and Miriam's jealousy as a sign of disrespect against Him 1 pt.**
  - **Miriam was infected with leprosy and temporarily expelled from the rest of the people. 2 pts.**
  - **After Moses prayed for her healing as an act of forgiveness, Miriam was healed. 1 pt.**
2. God appeared to Abraham in Haran and made a covenant with him to make his descendants into a great nation. Describe the two ways in which God fulfilled his covenant with Abraham? **(2.5 pts ea.)**

**(L3 P11)**

- **Fulfillment of the covenant through Isaac: The Lord blessed both Abraham and Sarah with a son, named Isaac, in their old age. This was the beginning of the great nation that God promised. 2.5 pts.**
  - **Fulfillment of the covenant through Jesus Christ: In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he writes "If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed and heirs according to the promise." We are in a covenant with God fulfilled through his son Jesus Christ and made a reality through Jesus's death and resurrection. 2.5 pts.**
3. The Book of Psalms has influenced many things including the Christian liturgy and worship.
- What is the theme of Psalm 19? **1 pt.**
  - Who authored Psalm 19? **1 pt.**
  - Describe the three parts of this song? **3 pts.**

**(L11 P42)**

- **The theme of this psalm is God's revelation of himself to mankind. 1 pt.**
- **Psalms 19 is authored by King David.**
- **Three Parts: Knowing God through His World, Knowing God through His Word, and Knowing God through Living His Way.**

4. King Ahab was considered one of the wicked kings of Israel. He worshipped Baal just as many of the Israelites of the time did.
- Why did Elijah challenge King Ahab to a contest on Mount Carmel? **1 pt.**
  - Describe the challenge Elijah presented to King Ahab and the Israelites? **2pts.**
  - What was the result of the challenge? **2 pts.**

**(L8 P29-30)**

- **Elijah was frustrated with King Ahab for worshipping Baal instead of God. 1 pt.**
  - **Elijah challenges King Ahab and the people of Israel to a contest to be held on Mount Carmel. They are both to take one bull each, cut it into pieces, and lay it on a wood altar without any fire. They each group will call out the name of their God. The God who answers by fire will be the true God. 2 pts.**
  - **Baal did not answer the cries of his followers. Elijah prepared his altar the same way but he added 12 stones to represent the tribes of Israel, dug a trench around the altar to hold seeds, and drenches his altar in water before calling out to God. The fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and water in the trench. The prophets of Baal were captured and killed. 2 pts.**
5. What gift did God give the prophet Isaiah? **1 pt.**  
What insight about Jesus did God give Isaiah? **1 pt.**  
What prophesy about Jesus Christ is described in verses 2 through 7 of Isaiah? **3 pts.**

**(L15 P56)**

- **The gift of prophesy**
- **God gave Isaiah great insight to write about the Messiah and His death for the sins of the world.**
- **Verses 2-7 are prophecy of the birth, life and death on the cross of Jesus Christ**

**Section 5 – Memory Verses. Complete any of five (5) of the following on the answer sheet provided (5 x 5pts = 25 pts. Total)**

1. Then Elijah said to him, “**Stay here; the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.**” And he replied, “**As surely as the Lord lives and as you live, I will not leave you.**” So the two of them went on. – 2 Kings 2:6  
**(L12 P47)**
2. But the Lord provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights. – Jonah 1:17  
**(L4 P16)**
3. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it. – 1 Corinthians 10:13  
**(L18 P69)**
4. A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones. – Proverbs 17:22  
**(L7 P28)**

5. First of all, then, **I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made** for everyone. – 1 Timothy 2:1  
**(L2 P8)**
6. And Jesus **increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.** – Luke 2:52  
**(L16 P62)**

**Section 6 – Mar Thoma Church: Our Foundation and Vision. Select the most appropriate response for the following question/statement. Write the corresponding letter on the answer sheet provided (10 x 1pt= 10 pts. Total)**

1. One of the following is NOT an element of worship of the Mar Thoma Church.  
a. Confession      b. Adoration      c. Communion      d. Intercessory Prayer  
**C (MTFV P117)**
2. Mar Thoma worship services started in North America in the year \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. 1942      b. 1972      c. 1992      d. 2002  
**B (MTFV P114)**
3. During Worship, kneeling is widely practiced in what church?  
a. Mar Thoma      b. Pentecostal      c. Roman Catholic      d. Baptist  
**C (MTFV P117)**
4. Who organized the “Beggar Relief Committee” at the Maramon Convention?  
a. Juhanon Mar Thoma Metropolitan      b. Abraham Malpan  
c. K. K. Kuruvilla      d. St. Thomas  
**A (MTFV P 123)**
5. The parishes of North America and Europe were brought together to form a Diocese in which year?  
a. 1888      b. 1908      c. 1988      d. 2008  
**C (MTFV P114)**
6. \_\_\_\_\_ is the adoration of God.  
a. humility      b. faith      c. qurbana      d. worship  
**D (MTFV P116)**
7. \_\_\_\_\_ means ‘having to do with Jesus Christ as Lord’.  
a. Sacrament      b. Dominical      c. Communion      d. Aramana  
**B (MTFV P118)**
8. All of the following are basic elements of our worship **except**:  
a. Preaching the Word of God      b. Confession  
c. Intercession      d. Prayers for the dead  
**D (MTFV P69)**
9. The Mar Thoma Church is unique in that it is considered a \_\_\_\_\_ church.  
a. Catholica      b. Reformed      c. Holy      d. Western  
**B (MTFV P73)**

10. The Mar Thoma church responded to Juhanon Mar Thoma Metropolitan's challenge regarding social obligations by \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Starting the Mexico Mission
  - b. Starting Sisters of Charity
  - c. Building 75 homes for homeless
  - d. none of these
- C (MTFV P123)**

**Section 7 – Mar Thoma History Short Answer. Answer one of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (1 x 5pts = 5 pts Total)**

1. What is the meaning of inter-communion? **2 pts.**  
Which church do we have inter-communion with in the United States? **1 pt.**  
Name two churches in India that we have inter-communion with. **2 pts.**

**(MTFV P117)**

- **Inter-communion means allowing members of our church to receive Holy Communion from a church which has a special relationship with our church. (2 pts)**
- **We have inter-communion with the Episcopal Church in the United States. (1 pt)**
- **In India, we have inter-communion with the Church of South India (CSI) and Church of North India (CNI). (2 pts)**

2. What is worship? **1 pts**  
What are the basic elements of the Mar Thoma Worship Order? **3 pts**  
Why do we use the standing posture during worship? **1 pt**

**(MTFV P117)**

**Any 2 for 1 pt.**

- **Worship is the adoration of God**
- **Worship is the highest activity of man, whose goal is to achieve God's glory**
- **It is through worship that the life and witness of the church are maintained and the community is united and built up.**

**½ pt each (total 3 pts)**

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| • <b>Word of God</b> | • <b>Thanksgiving</b> |
| • <b>Adoration</b>   | • <b>Intercession</b> |
| • <b>Confession</b>  | • <b>Offering</b>     |

**1 pt.**

- **We worship in the standing posture because we believe the Lord is present in this service and as an eastern mark of respect. We adore him in standing.**



**MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS**  
**DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE**  
**2016 Diocesan Examination**  
**Grade 6**

Time : 90 Minutes

Maximum Score : 100 Points

**Section 1 – Match the following. Write the appropriate letter of the matching word from Column B that corresponds with the word from Column A.**  
**(10 x 1pt each =10pts Total)**

Column A		Column B
1. Joshua	<b>F (L7 P28)</b>	A. Gibeon
2. Frogs	<b>H (L5 P19)</b>	B. Ezekiel
3. Naomi	<b>J (L8 P33)</b>	C. Ahab
4. King Jabin	<b>I (L11 P43)</b>	D. Haran
5. David	<b>K (L12 P47)</b>	E. East
6. Solomon	<b>A (L13 P52)</b>	F. The Lord Saves
7. Elijah	<b>C (L9 P36)</b>	G. West
8. Prophet of the Exile	<b>B (L14 P58)</b>	H. Second Plague
9. Magi	<b>E (L16 P65)</b>	I. Sisera
10. Abraham	<b>D (L1 P2)</b>	J. Elimelech
		K. Jesse

**Section 2 – Fill in the Blanks. Write the appropriate word(s) in the space provided.**  
**(10 x 1pt each = 10 pts Total)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ were the first two disciples of Jesus.  
**Simon and Andrew (L17 P69)**
- Deborah, wife of \_\_\_\_\_ was a prophetess and judge.  
**Lappidoth (L11 P43)**
- \_\_\_\_\_ asked the Lord to give him an understanding mind to discern between good and evil in order to best govern his people.  
**Solomon (L13 P52)**
- \_\_\_\_\_ 's name was noted in the King's records because he foiled the plot to kill the king by telling Esther.  
**Mordecai (L15 P62)**
- Abram settled in the land of \_\_\_\_\_ until his father Terah died.  
**Haran (L1 P2)**
- \_\_\_\_\_ appointed Daniel as one of the three presidents over all 120 satraps in the Kingdom.  
**King Darius or Darius (L14 P58)**
- \_\_\_\_\_, a native of the land Moreshath, was a poet and a prophet.  
**Micah (L10 P40)**

8. Moses went up \_\_\_\_\_ to receive the Ten Commandments.  
**Mount Sinai (L6 P25)**

9. \_\_\_\_\_ is the great-grandfather of King David.  
**Boaz (L8 P33)**

10. For the \_\_\_\_\_ came to seek and to save the lost.  
**Son of Man (L19 P81)**

**Section 3 – Multiple Choice. Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement. (20 x 1pt= 20 pts Total)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ followed the advice of the prophet Elijah when he summoned the people of Israel and the prophets of Baal for the test of fire at Mount Carmel.

- a. King Ahab
- b. King Hezekiah
- c. King Saul
- d. King Solomon

**A (L9 P36)**

2. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?

- a. Moses' prayer
- b. David's prayer
- c. Deborah's prayer
- d. Solomon's Prayer

**D (L13 P52)**

3. \_\_\_\_\_ led the Israelites to the 'Promised Land' after the death of Moses.

- a. Aaron
- b. Joshua
- c. David
- d. Caleb

**B (L7 P27)**

4. A golden calf was molded for the Israelites to worship by this man:

- a. Joshua
- b. Caleb
- c. Moses
- d. Aaron

**D (L6 P24)**

5. An army led by Deborah and Barak defeated this Canaanite king:

- a. Ahaz
- b. Jabin
- c. Saul
- d. Sisera

**B (L11 P43)**

6. Who said: "Thus, says the Lord: About midnight I will go out through Egypt. Every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die." to whom?

- a. Aaron to Pharaoh
- b. Moses to Pharaoh
- c. Moses to Aaron
- d. Pharaoh to Moses

**B (L5 P21)**

7. Who does not take part in Micah's "courtroom scene?"

- a. God
- b. Israel
- c. King
- d. Micah

**C (L10 P39)**

8. David was from the town of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Jerusalem
- b. Judah
- c. Philistia
- d. Bethlehem

**D (L12 P47)**

9. King Solomon asked the Lord for \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. understanding mind
  - b. loving heart
  - c. great strength
  - d. clever speech
- A (L13 P52)**
10. The windows of Daniel's house opened towards \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. East
  - b. South
  - c. Jerusalem
  - d. Nazareth
- C (L14 P57)**
11. \_\_\_\_\_ went out to Mordecai in the square.
- a. Haman
  - b. Hathach
  - c. Esther
  - d. King Ahasuerus
- C (L15 P61)**
12. The \_\_\_\_\_ were experts in the study of the stars.
- a. Scribes
  - b. Chief Priests
  - c. Wise men
  - d. Magi
- D(L16 P66)**
13. These brothers left their father in the boat with hired men.
- a. Simon & Andrew
  - b. James & John
  - c. Philip & Bartholomew
  - d. Thomas & Mathew
- B (L17 P71)**
14. Thomas, also called Didymus, traveled to \_\_\_\_\_, Persia, and India.
- a. Parthia
  - b. Romania
  - c. Greece
  - d. Scythia
- A (L17 P71)**
15. Jesus said, Love your enemies and pray for those who \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. hate
  - b. love
  - c. persecute
  - d. curse
- C (L18 P73)**
16. "Today's salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham." To which man is this verse referring to?
- a. Bartholomew
  - b. Peter
  - c. Zacchaeus
  - d. Mathew
- C (L20 P81)**
17. Abram was \_\_\_\_\_ years old when he departed from Haran.
- a. 75
  - b. 85
  - c. 95
  - d. 100
- A (L1 P1)**
18. "Then the man said, you shall no longer be called \_\_\_\_\_, but Israel, for you have striven with God."
- a. David
  - b. Jacob
  - c. Abraham
  - d. Joseph
- B (L2 P5)**

19. The \_\_\_\_\_ sold Joseph in Egypt to Potiphar, one of Pharaoh's officials.

- a. Canaanites      b. Israelites      c. Midianites      d. Kushites

**C (L3 P9)**

20. Who asked Jesus this question: "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

- a. a Samaritan      b. a tax collector      c. a lawyer      d. a Pharisee

**C (L19 P77)**

**Section 4 – Short Answers. Answer any four (4) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5pts = 20pts Total)**

1. What were the instructions that God gave Joshua to enable the Israelites to be victorious over Jericho? What was the end result?

**(L7 P27) 1 pt. ea.**

- **March around the city, with all warriors circling the city once for six days with seven priests holding trumpets of rams' horns before the ark.**
- **On the seventh day, Joshua was to march around the city seven times, this time with the priests blowing trumpets.**
- **A long blast should be made with the ram's horn.**
- **When the people hear the trumpet, they were to shout with a great voice and the wall of the city will fall down flat (and people shall charge straight in)**
- **The Israelites were obedient to God's instructions and through following them were able to overtake the city of Jericho.**

2. What does the term 'kinsman redeemer' mean?

Describe the circumstances that led up to Boaz becoming a kinsman-redeemer?

**(L8 P32) 1 pt. ea.**

- **A kinsman-redeemer is a relative who helped a poor person get back on their feet. In certain circumstances, where there were no children, a near relative could act as a kinsman-redeemer by marrying the relative's widow.**
- **Ruth and Naomi were both widows that settled in Moab. When the time came for the closest kin to claim the property belonging to the family of Ruth and Naomi, a relative came to acquire the land.**
- **Boaz told the relative that if he wanted to have the land, he would have to marry Ruth as well.**
- **Since the relative declined that offer, Boaz stepped forward as the kinsman redeemer and married Ruth.**
- **Boaz did not marry Ruth for her land, but out of a sense of duty, kindness and respect. In marrying Ruth, Boaz honored his role of protecting the family and would be able to take care of Naomi and Ruth.**

3. List and explain any four teachings of the Sermon on the Mount.

**(L18 P74) 1.25 pts. ea.**

- **You are the light of the world:** It is our job to be a shining example for those around us. We should feel inspired to live according to the God's commandment so that other may also come to see God through us.
- **Anger and Murder:** It makes us hard to treat other people with kindness, if we allow the anger in our heart to influence our actions. By acting out of anger, we are killing the relationship between God's children. We should therefore be slow to anger and quick to forgive, just as God is toward us.
- **Loving your enemies:** It is easy to treat others with kindness when they respond with kindness and love. However, Jesus shows us through his life and the cross, that praying for your enemies is the answer for any persecution we face from others.
- **Giving to Charity:** Giving to the less fortunate and do not have enough resources is not only noble, but right. We should give with a cheerful heart, and not seek praise or recognition from the people around us. We will be rewarded by God for our good actions.

4. What was the secret to Deborah's success?

**(L11 P 44) 1.25 pts. ea.**

- **Faith/Trust.** Deborah was person of strong faith and trusted in the word of God. Deborah summoned Barak to take ten thousand soldiers from the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun and fight Jabin's army.
- **Although Barak was not ready to trust the word of God.** However, he was willing to follow Deborah if she went with him.
- **Obedience:** Deborah obeyed God and was a woman of faith. She fulfilled the job given to her and was willing to take up the leadership when Barack panicked.
- **Honor:** Through the defeat of King Jabin and army leader Sisera, Deborah was able to restore integrity into the Israelites lives.

5. Explain how the story of Joseph and his brothers shows us how certain choices have negative consequences.

**(L3 P11-12) 1 pt. ea.**

- **Joseph was one of the youngest of Jacob's sons and was Jacob's favorite son and even made Joseph a robe with many colors.**
- **Joseph had dreams which implied one day his brothers would bow down to him.**
- **Joseph's brothers were jealous of him and one time when he was going to his brothers in Dothan, his brothers stripped him of his clothes and sold him into slavery.**
- **The brothers dipped Joseph's robe in blood and gave it to his father, Jacob who grieved for Joseph greatly.**
- **Meanwhile, Joseph ended up in Egypt as a slave to a man named Potiphar.**





**Section 7 – Mar Thoma History Short Answer. Answer one of the following questions. (1 x 5pts = 5 pts Total)**

1. What is the "Coonen Cross Oath"? Briefly explain the history and the results of this event.

**(MTFV 135-36)**

- **The “Coonen Cross Oath” is a pledge taken by a group of Christians. The pledge was “ We and our children shall never be under Rome.” (2pts)**
- **In 1653, about 25000 devoted Christians under the leadership of Archdeacon Thomas and 633 priests marched to Cochin fort. They were confronted by Portuguese soldiers. They withdrew to a church at Mattancherry, where there was a cross. They tied ropes to the cross and touching the ropes they took the above pledge. The cross was slightly leaning and so the oath is known as “Coonen Cross Oath.” (3pts)**

2. Who are the members of the Episcopal Synod? What is its responsibility? What is the Metropolitan’s role in the Episcopal Synod?

**(MTFV 142)**

- **Episcopal Synod consists of all the Bishops of the Mar Thoma Church (1pt)**
- **It has to approve all decisions of the Sabha Mandalam before they are implemented (2pt)**
- **The Metropolitan is the supreme authority and has special power to send back the decisions for reconsideration by the Mandalam (2pt)**





16. Jeremiah was a contemporary of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Habakkuk and Elijah
- b. Ezekial and Isaiah
- c. Hezekiah and Ezekiel
- d. Habakkuk and Ezekiel

**D (L10 P49)**

17. Jeremiah was timid due to his young age and inexperience, but he was \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. dedicated to God
- b. True patriot
- c. Fearless and faithful
- d. all of the above

**D (L10 P49)**

18. Who was the King that Esther married after winning the beauty pagent?

- a. Ahab
- b. Josiah
- c. Ahasuerus
- d. Abigail

**C (L11 P56)**

19. The Jews celebrated \_\_\_\_\_ to remember their deliverance from the persecution planned by Haran and foiled by Esther.

- a. Purim
- b. Yom Kippur
- c. Pentecost
- d. Hanukkah

**A (L11 P57)**

20. Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego stood out among the chosen Hebrew boys to be trained in the Kings court because of

- a. their courage and willingness to profess their faith when faced with adversity
- b. courage and willingness to accept their assignment
- c. willingness to cooperate with the king's court and courage to face adversity
- c. none of these

**A (L12 P62)**

21. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah did not eat the food offered at the King's table because \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. it was food from the sea and caught by Babylonians
- b. meats were of certain un-clean animals not slaughtered according to Jewish laws
- c. both a and b
- d. none of these

**B (L12 P62)**

22. \_\_\_\_\_ did not give King Ahab his vineyard.

- a. Thesboth
- b. Horeb
- c. Naboth
- d. Teteh

**C (L13 P65)**

23. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (in order) were the two commandments that King Ahab disobeyed.
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a. Thou shall not covet thy neighbors goods<br>Thou shall not kill   | b. Thou shall not steal<br>Thou shall not kill              |
| c. Thou shall not steal<br>Thou shall not covet thy neighbor's goods | d. Thou shall not steal<br>Thou shall obey the Lord thy God |
- A (L13 P65)**
24. The book of Proverbs is a compilation of \_\_\_\_\_ written by \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a. Collection of Proverbs; David | b. Collection of Proverbs; Solomon |
| c. Collection of advice; David   | d. Collection of advice; Solomon   |
- D (L14 P75)**
25. Solomon was blessed with the gift of \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. knowledge and insight | b. wisdom and insight |
| c. wisdom and knowledge  | d. advice and insight |
- B (L14 P75)**
26. Elisha's commitment to Elijah can be compared with \_\_\_\_\_ loyalty to \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| a. Ruth's; Naomi | b. Mary's; Jesus    |
| c. Naomi's; Ruth | d. Sarah's; Abraham |
- A (L15 P79)**
27. The basic guide to a meaningful and powerful prayer is:
- |   |
|---|
| a. atonement, confession, thanksgiving and supplication   |
| b. adoration, confession, transgression and supplication  |
| c. atonement, confession, transgression, and supplication |
| d. adoration, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication  |
- D (L16 P84)**
28. Believing that Jesus' death on the cross is a sacrifice to redeem us from our sins is the only way to attain \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
- |          |              |                 |              |
|----------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| a. peace | b. atonement | c. eternal life | d. happiness |
|----------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
- D (L17 P88)**
29. The responsibilities of Parakletos are:
- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. counselor and advocate | b. comforter and helper |
| c. only b                 | d. a & b                |
- D (L18 P92)**
30. Our bodies are \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit.
- |           |            |         |                  |
|-----------|------------|---------|------------------|
| a. sacred | b. temples | c. full | d. none of these |
|-----------|------------|---------|------------------|
- B (L20 P102)**

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

1. Abraham was a nomad with no children, but God chose him because of his unconditional faith.

- What are the three main promises in the Abrahamic Covenant? **3 pts.**
- Explain why Abraham holds a prominent position in history as the father of the Hebrew nation. (Israel). **2 pts.**

**(L4 P17)**

- **The three main promises in the Abrahamic Covenant are:**
  - **The promise of land**
  - **The promise of descendants**
  - **The promise of blessings and redemption**
- **Abraham holds a prominent position in history as the father of the Hebrew nation because of his blind faith in God.**

2. What are the ten plagues that God sent upon Egypt to persuade Pharaoh to free the Israelites. List them in order. **0.5 pts. ea.**

**(L5 P22) 0.5 pts. each**

- **Water turned to blood**
- **Frogs**
- **Lice/gnats**
- **Flies**
- **Diseased Cattle**
- **Boils**
- **Hail**
- **Locusts**
- **Darkness**
- **Death of first-born children**

3. When the angel appeared to Gideon and instructed him that he was to lead the Israelites to victory against their oppressors, Gideon was not convinced that he was the chosen one and needed more assurance. So he asked the angel to show him signs that the angel was truly sent by God. State and describe each sign. **5 pts.**

**(L8 P38) 5 pts.**

- **As Gideon prepared an offering of meat and bread for his guest, the angel touched the offering with the end of the stick he was holding and fire came out of the rock and burnt the meat and bread.**
- **Gideon laid a wool fleece on the threshing floor and asked God to make the fleece wet and the floor dry. The angel did Gideon asked.**
- **Then Gideon asked the angel make the fleece dry and the floor wet and the angel did Gideon asked.**

4. State the five characteristics that Esther possesses. **1 pt. ea.**

**(L11 P58) 1 pt. ea.**

1. Esther was obedient and submissive
2. Esther was sincere with a grateful heart
3. Esther was humble and believed in the Divine power
4. Esther was courageous
5. Esther was patient.

5. The manifestations of the Holy Spirit are grouped into three categories. List them and provide examples. **5 pts.**

**(L9 P4) 5 pts.**

**The manifestations of the Holy Spirit are grouped into three categories:**

- a. Inspiration: Speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, prophecy**
- b. Revelations: Words of wisdom, words of knowledge, discerning of spirits**
- c. Power: Faith, working of miracles, gifts of healing**

**SECTION 3 – Memory Verses: Complete any of five (5) of the following (5 x 5pts = 25 pts. Total)**

1. **"I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing, I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."** - Genesis 12: 2-3  
**(L4 P19)**
2. **O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart.** - Psalm 15: 1-2  
**(L13 P71)**
3. **"For you are a people holy to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on earth to be his people, his treasured possession."** - Deuteronomy 7:6  
**(L6 P28)**
4. **For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!** - 2 Corinthians 6:2  
**(L17 P90)**
5. **But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.** - Matthew 6:33  
**(L19 P99)**
6. **For if you keep silence at 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  
**(L11 P59)**

**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. This is characterized by the regular proclamation of the Gospel and the regular administration of the Lord's Supper.
  - a. The Holy Qurbana
  - b. Nicene Creed
  - c. The Mar Thoma Church Liturgy
  - d. The Great Lent Period

**C (MTFV P153)**

2. Liturgy is defined as ...
- a. the source and summit of the life of the church and the celebration of the mystery of salvation
  - b. the history of the church and the celebration of the mystery of salvation
  - c. the source and summit of the life of the church and the celebration of life.
  - d. none of the above

**A (MTFV P154)**

3. What *Taksa* does the Mar Thoma Church use during Holy Communion?
- a. St. John liturgy
  - b. St. James liturgy
  - c. Nicene liturgy
  - d. Syrian Orthodox liturgy

**A (MTFV P154)**

4. \_\_\_\_\_ is included in the Qurbana.
- a. Elements of the Holy Spirit and wine
  - b. Elements of the Holy Spirit and the offertory
  - c. Elements of the Holy Spirit and confession
  - d. Elements of the offertory and confession

**B (MTFV P158)**

5. The smoke coming from the incense represents what kind of presence?
- a. Presence of the priest celebrating Communion
  - b. The Divine congregation of man and God
  - c. The Divine and presence of the Lord
  - d. all of the above

**C (MTFV P159)**

6. What happened on Epiphany?
- a. This is the day the believers saw the Glory of the Lord
  - b. This is the day the Jewish people saw the Glory of the Lord
  - c. This is the day that the people celebrated the sighting of the star
  - d. This is the day that the gentiles saw the Glory of the Lord

**D (MTFV P163)**

7. What day marks the beginning of Christianity?
- a. Epiphany
  - b. The Day of Ascension
  - c. The Day of Pentecost
  - d. Easter

**C (MTFV P163)**

8. We use a cross without the crucifix known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Epiphany
  - b. The Day of Ascension
  - c. The Day of Pentecost
  - d. Easter

**D (MTFV P159)**

9. The Nicene Creed ...
- is the statement of the basic faith of the Christian Church
  - is a statement that we affirm our faith in the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
  - proclaims that we look forward to the second coming of Christ
  - all of the above

**D (MTFV P169)**

10. The Nicene Creed is the only creed that is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Liturgical and universal
  - Ecumenical and methodical
  - Ecumenical and universal
  - Liturgical and ecumenical

**C (MTFV P166)**

**Section 5 – Mar Thoma History Short Answer. Answer one of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (1 x 5pts = 5 pts Total)**

1. What are the five symbols associated with the Mar Thoma Order of Worship. Briefly describe each.

**(MTFV P158-59) 1 pt. ea.**

- Madbaha - an altar to celebrate the Qurbana**
- Light - calls us to shine light the light in a world of darkness**
- Incense and Censer - an offering. The smoke from the incense is a symbol of the divine presence. The cloud and incense stand for the invisible presence of the Lord. Three chains on censer stand for the Holy Trinity. The bells attached to the chains symbolizes the teachings of the twelve Apostles.**
- Cross - symbolizes eternal life granted to humanity through Christ's sacrificial act. It symbolizes light, peace, and the new life received through Christ.**
- Kappa - vestment that the priest wears during Holy Qurbana and other sacraments. They are made "for glory and beauty".**

2. What are the 5 faith proclamations (We believe (or acknowledge) ...) in the Nicene Creed?

**(MTFV P167-168)**

- We believe in one true God, the father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible**
- We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God**
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life**
- We believe in one, Holy, Catholic and apostolic church**
- We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins and look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the new life of the world to come**

**Section 6 – Essay (10 points).** Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in approximately 150 words.

1. The Kingdom of God was a main theme of Jesus' teaching.

*Be sure to include to below points in your essay*

- a. Define the Kingdom of God (2 pts)
- b. How did Jesus teach about the Kingdom of God? Give 2 examples. (3 pts)
- c. What are 6 truths that can explain the Kingdom of God (5 pts)

(L19 P98)

- a. **The Kingdom of God is not a geographical or political entity. It is God's kingly authority which rules over all time and space. His Kingdom embraces not only all people but also all of His creation. His Kingdom is righteousness, peace and joy which the Holy Spirit gives.**
- b. **Jesus used parables to teach the characteristics of the Kingdom of God.**
  - Parable of the mustard seed
  - Parable of the yeast
  - Parable of the treasure hidden in the field
  - Parable of the vineyard
  - Parable of the wedding feast
- c. **Some truths**
  - **The Kingdom of God is a great treasure. It is difficult for the rich to inherit the Kingdom of God if they love their wealth more than God.**
  - **The Kingdom of God belongs to the children. If you are not born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God**
  - **Everyone is welcome to the Kingdom of God. If the chosen people, the invited ones, don not turn up, God in His mercy, takes in even the least deserving among the people**
  - **The Kingdom of God is a just society where God rewards everyone according to His mercy.**
  - **The Kingdom of God is like yeast or a small seed. A small quantity of yeast ferments the whole flour, and a small seed grows into a big tree that gives shade and shelter to many.**
  - **The Kingdom of God is of the past, present and future. Jesus makes clear that the Kingdom of God is open to all irrespective of wealth, creed, race or gender. The only requirement is that you accept His call.**

2. God gave Elijah the responsibility of finding his own replacement/successor.

***Be sure to include to below points in your essay***

- a. Who succeeded Elijah as the prophet of the Lord? **1 pt.**
- b. What symbolic action did Elijah do to the successor and what did it mean? **1 pt.**
- c. How many times did Elijah ask his successor to leave him and go on his own? **1 pt.**
- d. Which Old Testament story has similar characteristics to this type of faithfulness? **1 pt.**
- e. When Elijah was taken to heaven, his successor did 2 things. What were they what did they mean? **3 pts.**

**(L15 P79)**

- a. **Elisha succeeded Elijah as the prophet of the Lord**
- b. **Elijah put his mantle onto Elisha's shoulder which symbolized Elijah's passing on his responsibilities to Elisha.**
- c. **Elijah asked Elisha to leave him 3 times**
- d. **This faithfulness can be related to the story of Ruth ad how she never left Naomi's side**
- e. **First he requested to Elijah that he inherit a double share of the Elijah's spirit which was given to him. Elisha was asking for double the blessings Elijah received in his time.**  
**Secondly, as Elijah was taken up to heaven, Elisha cried and tore his clothes which meant one or all of three thing:**
  1. **Elisha was expressing his grief over losing Elijah**
  2. **Elisha was showing his overwhelming emotion as he receives his double portion**
  3. **Elisha is showing his acceptance of Elijah's position by throwing away his old self**



**MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS**  
**DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE**  
**2016 Diocesan Exam**  
**Grade 8**

Time: 90 Minutes

Maximum Score: 100 Points

**Section 1 – Multiple Choice. Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement. (30 x 1pt= 30 pts Total)**

1. God said to \_\_\_\_\_, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it."  
a. Noah and his family  
b. Abraham and Sarah  
c. Adam and Eve  
d. Jacob and Rachel  
**C (L1 P1)**
2. Solomon began to build the temple in the \_\_\_\_\_ year after the Israelites came out of the land of Egypt.  
a. 380th  
b. 400th  
c. 450th  
d. 480th  
**D (L12 P53)**
3. God asked Jonah to go to \_\_\_\_\_, but he went down to Joppa and got on a ship going to \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Jezreel / Nineveh  
b. Nineveh / Damascus  
c. Nineveh / Tigris  
d. Nineveh / Tarshish  
**D (L10 P45)**
4. During the journey of Israelites to the Promised Land, they camped at a place named \_\_\_\_\_ where there were twelve springs and seventy palm trees.  
a. Shur  
b. Elim  
c. Sinai  
d. Sin  
**B (L1 P1)**
5. Elisha told Naaman to go and wash himself seven times in the river \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Abana  
b. Pharpar  
c. Nile  
d. Jordan  
**D (L15 P68)**
6. \_\_\_\_\_ mingled the blood of some Galileans with their sacrifices.  
a. King Herod  
b. The Emperor  
c. Pilot  
d. High Priest  
**C (L7 P33)**
7. \_\_\_\_\_ was the only one disciple of Jesus who was **NOT** martyred.  
a. Peter  
b. Philip  
c. Nathaniel  
d. John  
**D (L20 P96-97)**
8. Jesus' disciple John lived to write the Gospel of John, the Epistles of John and the book of Revelations while he was in exile in \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Babylon  
b. Syria  
c. Island of Patos  
d. Rome

**C (L20 P97)**

9. The Lord warned that, "whoever kills \_\_\_\_\_ will suffer a sevenfold vengeance."  
a. Abel                      b. Noah                      c. Cain                      d. Jesus

**C (L3 P11)**

10. \_\_\_\_\_ was the first disciple of Jesus to be martyred.  
a. Peter                      b. Thomas                      c. James                      d. John

**C (L20 P96)**

11. Jesus called \_\_\_\_\_ down from a tree.  
a. Peter                      b. Matthew                      c. Lazarus                      d. Zacchaeus

**D (L9 P41)**

12. Before God changed it to Sarah, what was her name?  
a. Sarai                      b. Rebecca                      c. Hannah                      d. Hagar

**A (L5 P21)**

13. The two groups of people who conspired against Jesus were the Pharisees and the:  
a. Romans                      b. Herodians                      c. Sadducees                      d. Greek

**B (L17 P80)**

14. The Israelites ate manna in the wilderness for \_\_\_\_\_ years.  
a. 7                      b. 70                      c. 10                      d. 40

**D (L11 P50)**

15. In the parable of the prodigal son, the older brother symbolizes \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Jesus                      b. Pharisees                      c. Priest                      d. good friend

**B (L16 P77)**

16. Isaiah lived 700 years before the birth of Jesus Christ and prophesied during the reign of four kings. He **did not** prophesy during the reign of King \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Ahaz                      b. Ahab                      c. Jotham                      d. Hezekiah

**B (L7 P31)**

17. In response to a question from God, \_\_\_\_\_ responded with, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?"  
a. Abel                      b. Cain                      c. Jonah                      d. Ruben

**B (L3 P11)**

18. The name Hannah means \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. God's gift                      b. joy                      c. mercy                      d. grace

**D (L9 P1)**

19. Jonah was the son of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Abraham                      b. Hezekiah                      c. Amittai                      d. Uzziah

**C (L10 P45)**

20. Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Eden                      b. Judea                      c. Nod                      d. Rod  
**C (L3 P11)**
21. Abraham almost sacrificed Isaac on the summit of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Mount Sinai              b. Mount Carmel              c. Mount Mariah              d. Mount Horeb  
**C (L12 P55)**
22. Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of \_\_\_\_\_."  
 a. Haran                      b. Damascus                      c. Egypt                      d. Canaan  
**B (L5 P21)**
23. Adam named his wife Eve because she was \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. mother to Cain              b. the first woman              c. his wife                      d. mother of all living  
**D (L2 P6)**
24. \_\_\_\_\_ was King Ahab's wife.  
 a. Rehoboam                      b. Delilah                      c. Abigail                      d. Jezebel  
**D (L8 P36)**
25. The word "Passover" is derived from the Hebrew word \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Victory                      b. Matzah                      c. Pesach                      d. Pasech  
**C (L14 P65)**
26. Samuel's parents Hannah and \_\_\_\_\_ lived in the small town of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 a. Joseph    b. Sobach  
 c. Elkanah    d. Amoz  
**C (L9 P1)**
27. Elijah brought the \_\_\_\_\_ of Baal to Wadi Kishon and killed them there.  
 a. priests                      b. prophets                      c. disciples                      d. worshippers  
**B (L8 P58)**
28. The temple that Solomon built for the Lord was \_\_\_\_\_ long, \_\_\_\_\_ wide, and \_\_\_\_\_ high.  
 a. 50 cubits / 30 cubits / 20 cubits                      b. 40 cubits/ 20 cubits/ 30 cubits  
 c. 60 cubits/ 20 cubits/ 30 cubits                      d. 60 cubits/ 40 cubits/ 20 cubits  
**B (L12 P53)**
29. \_\_\_\_\_ was the commander of the army of the king of Aram.  
 a. Potiphar                      b. Naaman                      c. Joshua                      d. Asahel  
**B (L15 P69)**

30. James 5:17-18 reads: \_\_\_\_\_ was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain.”
- a. Elisha                      b. Elijah                      c. Isaiah                      d. Malachi
- B (L8 P38)**

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

1. What was the question the Pharisees and the Herodians asked Jesus to trap Him? How did Jesus answer them?

**L17 P81-82 (2.5 pts each)**

- **The question to Jesus was about paying poll tax which was the clearest sign of submission to Rome. The Pharisees and the Herodians asked Jesus, “Teacher, is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?”**
- **Jesus asked them to show a Roman coin. As they handed Jesus a denarius, he asked his questioners a question “Whose head is this, and whose title?”. They answered, “The emperor’s”. Then Jesus said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and give to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed and they left him and went away.**

2. What is the focus of the last six commandments? List them in order.

**L4 P17**

- **The last six commandments focus on our relationship to others. (2 pts) (1 pt each for below bullets)**
- **Honor your father and mother**
- **You shall not murder**
- **You shall not commit adultery**
- **You shall not steal**
- **You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor**
- **You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor [your neighbors house, wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.]**

3. What do the Israelites celebrate at Passover? What are the three components of the ordinance of Passover God gave through Moses?

**L14 P65**

- **At Passover, the Israelites celebrate their deliverance from slavery to the Egyptians and God sparing the first born sons of the Israelites from the Angel of Death. (2 pts)**
- **Three components of ordinance of Passover (1 pt. each)**
- **The killing and eating of the Passover Lamb**
- **The sprinkling of blood upon the door frame**
- **The feast of unleavened bread for seven days**

4. Jesus calls God the Father and gardener of a vineyard in the “I am the Vine” conversation with his disciples. Jesus continues to describe how we are called to bear fruits and how God prunes us for his work.

Name any five fruits we are expected to bear as stated in Galatians?

**L19 P92 (Any five 1 pt each)**

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-Control

5. Explain how Elijah proved to the people and the king that the Lord, God of Israel, is the only real God.

**L8 P37-38 (1 pt ea.)**

- **Elijah asked King Ahab to call the prophets of Baal and Asherah to Mt. Carmel and challenged them to prove whose God is the true God through a test.**
- **Both Elijah and the prophets of Baal cut up a bull and lay it on a wood altar without fire. The God who answers by fire will be the true God.**
- **The prophets of Baal and Asherah prepared their bull and called on Baal from morning till noon with no answer.**
- **Elijah prepared his bull and poured water on the altar. Upon prayer to God, fire consumed the offering.**
- **This proved that Elijah's God was the only real God.**

**Section 3 – Memory Verses. Complete any of five (5) of the following on the answer sheet provided (5 x 5pts = 25 pts. Total)**

1. Even though you **intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people**, as he is doing today. - Genesis 50:20  
**(L6 P30)**
2. Then pay **attention to how you listen; for to those who have, more will be given; and from those who do not have, even what they seem to have will be taken away.**  
- Luke 8:18  
**(L18 P89)**
3. O give **thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.** - Psalm 136: 26  
**(L11 P52)**
4. Then God spoke all these words: **I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.** - Exodus 20: 1-3  
**(L4 P18)**



9. The prayer to the Holy Spirit to bless the bread and wine is for Holy Communion is called:

- a. Prayer of Epiclesis
- b. Intercessory Prayer
- c. Prayer of Anamnesis
- d. Prayer of Confession

**A (MTVF P181)**

10. \_\_\_\_\_ means the commissioning of one's identification with the death and resurrection of Jesus.

- a. Holy Communion
- b. Baptism
- c. Confession
- d. Confirmation

**B (MTVF P)**

**Section 5 – Mar Thoma History Short Answer. Answer one of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (1 x 5pts = 5 pts Total)**

1. What are the two parts in the order of service in a Christian Wedding? Explain

**(MTVF P185) 2.5 pts. ea.**

- **The order of service of Christian marriage consists of two parts. First part is the blessing of the rings. It is the service of betrothal. The celebrant on behalf of the Church adorns the couple with the rings offering special prayers for the blessing of God.**
- **The second part of the service is the service of consecration, which is the blessing with crown. The blessing of the Almighty is invoked on the bride and the bridegroom.**

2. What are the 10 parts of the St. James liturgy used by the Mar Thoma Church?

**(MTVF P180) 0.5 pts. Ea.**

- **Anticomunion**
- **Prayer of Epiclesis**
- **Sermon**
- **Intercession**
- **Confessional Prayer**
- **Second Blessing**
- **Kiss of Peace**
- **Breaking of Bread**
- **First Blessing**
- **Third Blessing**
- **Words of Institution**
- **Participation and Final Blessing**
- **Prayer of Anamnesis**

**Section 6 – Essay. Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in 150 words. (Total 10 points)**

1. Joseph said to his brothers, “Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people.”

Through the story of Joseph explain how did God turn the harm his brothers intended him to good?

- a. Introduction (1 pt.)
- b. Describe the circumstances of Joseph’s arrival in Egypt (3 pts.)
- c. Joseph's reaction to seeing his brothers in Egypt. (3 pts.)
- d. Explain God’s purpose for Joseph’s life. (2 pts.)
- e. Conclusion – Importance of forgiveness and reconciliation (1 pt.)

**(L6 P27 onwards)**

- a. **The story of Joseph and his brothers is of forgiveness and reconciliation. It also teaches that God has a purpose in our lives. We need to recognize God’s purpose in order for us to have a fruitful life. (Students may write their own introduction related to Joseph’s story)**
- b. **Joseph was the second youngest son of Jacob. Jacob loved Joseph more than his other sons and that made them jealous of Joseph. His brothers sold Joseph as a slave to Ishmaelites. They brought to him to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar. Joseph was wrongly accused and sent to prison. God was with Joseph and gave him the ability to interpret dreams. This helped Joseph to become the prime minister of Egypt.**
- c. **There was a great famine in the land of Canaan. Jacob heard that there is food available in Egypt. He sent his sons to Egypt to buy food. Joseph was in charge of the distribution of food. His brothers came stood in front of him without knowing that it was their brother Joseph. But Joseph recognized his brothers. Even though his brother intended to do harm him, he was happy to see them. He revealed to them that he is their brother Joseph. He assured them that they don’t have to be afraid of him. He is not seeking any vengeance. He has forgiven them. Joseph said to his brothers, “Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people.” He asked his brothers to go back bring their father Jacob and rest of their families to Egypt and he promised to take care of them.**
- d. **Joseph’s brother intended harm too him when they sold him as a slave. Joseph trusted God and God revealed his plan through the dream Joseph had as a boy. God used the harmful act of his brothers for good of Joseph and his family. Joseph’s exaltation from slavery to the position as second in command of Egypt did not make him proud. He gave full glory to God.**
- e. **Joseph could have paid his brother back for their evil action towards him. But he chose to forgive them and reconcile with them. He was very happy to see them. Forgiveness is very important in a Christian’s life. As God forgives our sins, we should forgive those who wrong us. As Joseph helped his brothers in their time of need, we should be willing help others, even those who hurt us, in their needs. *(any variation of a valid conclusion to the student's essay should be honored)***

2. Malachi 3:8 reads “Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me! but you say, “How are we robbing you?” In your tithe and offerings!”

What is tithe? (Introduction 1 pt.)  
State the five Major statements made by Malachi (3 pts.)  
Explain each statement (5 pts.)  
Conclusion (1 pt.)

**(L13 P58)**

**Introduction:** The word tithe comes from a Hebrew word that means one tenth. The prophet Malachi really is trying to get the attention of the people about their giving habit. God’s people were failing to bring the required offering into the house of the Lord.

Statements from the passage made by prophet Malachi are

- 1) The tithe is the minimum.
- 2) The curse came from disobedience. (v.9)
- 3) The store house represents God’s work. (v.10)
- 4) The test challenges God to bless. (v.10)
- 5) The blessings are out of this world. (v.10)

**I. The tithe is the minimum:**

The first 10% of the income really is the tithe that one owes God. Tithing is a place to begin in supporting God’s Kingdom. Tithing is the requirement by God for everybody.

**II. The curse came from disobedience**

"You are suffering under a curse, yet you - the whole nation - are still robbing Me" (Mal. 3:9). God's people robbed Him, they have put a curse overall nation. They did that to themselves. Partial obedience is never obedience. One who holds on to tithe never benefits from it. Rather it is an act of blocking an opportunity for God to bless us. God spoke to Israelites that if all the tithes and offering were brought in to the storehouse, He would in turn open the windows of heaven and pour them out a blessing that they could not contain. Also, God promised that He would rebuke the devourer for their sake. While there are spiritual and financial consequences for failing to give God, we should never think that we will be "cursed". The foundational New Testament teaching clarifies: "Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, because it is written: Everyone who is hung on a tree is cursed" (Gal. 3:13 HCSB).

**III. The storehouse represents God's work (v. 10)**

"Bring the full tenth into the storehouse so that there may be food in my house" (Mal. 3:10). In Israel, the people brought their tithes of grain, olives, wine, and meat to be stored in the Temple. These goods

supported the priests and Levites, those serving God vocationally, since they did not have other sources of income. The poor in the community were also supported from tithe. Temple Operations were also supported from tithe. As we begin to put God first, in our giving, we practice to put God first in every area of life. This beautiful truth is really the heart of giving. We pay God first. It is true that many of God's people reverse this process. They give some money to God only if there is anything left. This exactly was happening in Malachi's day. People of Malachi's day were giving God the leftovers and thereby robbing God.

IV. The test challenges God to bless (v. 10)  
"Test Me in this way,' says the LORD of Hosts" (Mal. 3:10). God challenged His people to give according to the Law so that He could bless them. No other time God issued such a challenge in the Bible. We have seen in an earlier lesson on Cain and Abel how God looks at the condition of the heart of the giver (see 2 Cori: 9.7). God is serious about the true condition of one's heart.

V. The blessings are out of this world (v. 10)  
"See if I will not open the floodgates of heaven and pour out a blessing for you without measure'" (Mal. 3:10). This is an amazing passage of Scripture. In a giving match, no one can out-give God.

Conclusion: We need to make our tithing a priority to honor God and trust God with our career and Finances. *(any variation of a valid conclusion to the student's essay should be honored)*



**MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS**  
**DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE**  
**2016 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. On which day were the birds and the sea animals created?  
a. The fifth day    b. The fourth day    c. The first day    d. The seventh day  
**A L1 P1**
2. 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. Jesus    d. Elijah  
**B L2 P6**
3. Abraham had his first son \_\_\_\_\_ at the age of \_\_\_\_\_?  
a. Isaac; 86 years old    b. Isaac; 90 years old  
c. Ishmael; 86 years old    d. Ishmael; 90 years old  
**C L7 P27**
4. As part of the Covenant made by God to Abraham, what did Abraham have to do to keep the covenant?  
a. Sacrifice animals    b. Lead the people out of Egypt  
c. Circumcise the males in his house    d. None of the Above  
**C L9 P37 & 39**
5. Which of the following is **NOT** one of the four rites associated with the Covenant God made with Abraham?  
a. Setting up the stones of the altar    b. The oath made with the Covenant  
c. Placing different grains on the altar    d. A communion meal  
**C L16 P25**
6. What information or advice did the rich man initially want from Jesus?  
a. The way to inherit eternal life    b. The way to help the poor  
c. How to be born again    d. Why he should follow Jesus  
**A L20 P84**
7. What was the name of Bathsheba's husband?  
a. Jesse    b. Lot    c. Uriah    d. Kadir  
**C L8 P34**

8. The disciple named \_\_\_\_\_ is also known as Bartholomew.
- a. Matthew
  - b. Simon the Zealot
  - c. Nathanael
  - d. none of these

**C L10 P42**

9. Queen Esther's Jewish name was \_\_\_\_\_ which means \_\_\_\_\_
- a. Hadassah; Myrtle
  - b. Avishag; Rose
  - c. Anulat; Peace
  - d. none of these

**A L14 P59-60**

10. Which of the following people played a role in training and preparing Saul.
- i. before he met Jesus
  - ii. after he met Jesus

- a. i. Gamaliel/ ii. Ananias
- b. i. Philip; ii. Ananias
- c. i. Gamaliel; ii. Timothy
- d. i. Cleophas; ii. Ananias

**A L16 P67 & 69**

11. Which of the following was not one of the types of offerings the Israelites were allowed/required to perform?

- a. Burnt Offering
- b. Fellowship Offering
- c. Grain Offering
- d. all of the above

**D L5 P19**

12. Who is the first martyr for the Christian faith?

- a. Stephen
- b. James
- c. Philip
- d. Thomas

**A L16 P68**

13. The Mosaic Covenant is also known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Covenant.

- a. Abrahamic
- b. Sinai
- c. Palestinian
- d. Davidic

**B L4 P15**

14. Hagar call God "El-Roi" because:

- a. God would bless her and promise her a son
- b. God would bless Isaac with descendants
- c. God promised he would bless Ishmael with descendants
- d. she was able to have seen God and still lived

**D L7 P27**

15. David ruled the Israelites for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
- a. 30                      b. 40                      c. 70                      d. none of these
- B L8 P34**
16. \_\_\_\_\_ is a Jewish festival that celebrates the Israelites' deliverance from Egypt?
- a. Feast of Leavened Bread                      b. Passover
- c. Purim                      d. Feast of Tabernacles
- B L11 P49**
17. \_\_\_\_\_ helped Saul to regain his sight.
- a. Stephen                      b. Ananias                      c. Barnabas                      d. Silas
- B (L16 P66, 70)**
18. \_\_\_\_\_ helped with rebuilding Jerusalem when the Israelites returned from exile.
- a. Jeremiah                      b. Ezekiel                      c. Ezra                      d. Isaiah
- C L11 P49**
19. Paul was accompanied by a Levite named \_\_\_\_\_ on his first missionary journey.
- a. Ananias                      b. Sapphira
- c. Barnabas                      d. Bartholomew
- C L18 P77**
20. \_\_\_\_\_ was a very respected person and member of the Sanhedrin.
- a. Barnabas                      b. Nicodemus                      c. Jesus                      d. James
- B L17 P73**
21. The book of \_\_\_\_\_ is known as a book of war.
- a. Joshua                      b. Judges                      c. Numbers                      d. Deuteronomy
- D L13 P56**
22. \_\_\_\_\_ is the meaning of the name Jeremiah.
- a. Praise the Lord    b. Yahweh Exalts    c. God is with us    d. none of these
- B L11 P47**
23. The book of Psalms can be divided into \_\_\_\_\_ sections.
- a. 3                      b. 4                      c. 5                      d. 6
- C L3 P11**
24. The word “bara” means to \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. love                      b. sacrifice
- c. to create out of nothing                      d. to have dominion over all earth
- C L1 P2**

25. The rich man ultimately walked away from Jesus' calling because he \_\_\_\_\_.
- claimed to have kept the 10 commandments and thought that was enough
  - didn't believe that Jesus could actually offer eternal life
  - believed none of the poor people wanted his possessions
  - had great wealth and possessions and did not want to give that up

**D L20 P84**

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

1. Nicodemus met Jesus at night and told him that in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, one must be "born again" or "born of water and the Spirit."  
What does it mean to be born again? **2.5 pts**  
What example(s) did Jesus use when he referred to being born of the Spirit? **2.5 pts.**

**L17 P72-74**

- **Nicodemus met Jesus at night and told him that to enter the kingdom of heaven, one must be born again or born of water and the Spirit.**
  - **Being born again means being transformed from the inside out or becoming a new creation in Christ.**
  - **Jesus lives inside of you and so you behave differently from how you used to behave**
  - **Examples; Jesus compared being born again to the wind. You can't see it but you can feel it and you know where it is blowing.**
  - **Another example: Jesus being lifted up being compared to Moses lifting up the bronze serpent.**
2. Sometimes even after God makes great promises to us, we still give into doubt and uncertainty. Thinking back to the story of Abraham, Hagar and Ishmael:  
Explain what led to Abraham not trusting God.  
What were the consequences of his action?  
How did God respond to Abraham and what did God promise Hagar and Ishmael?

**L7 P28-29**

- **God promised Abraham a nation of descendants but since Abraham was old, he and his wife wondered how they would have children. So Sarah encouraged Abraham to have a child through her maidservant Hagar.**
- **Consequence: Ishmael was the child born to Hagar. As a result of Abraham's action, both Hagar and Ishmael treated Sarah and Isaac scornfully or looked down upon them. This created tension in the household.**
- **Consequence: As a result, Sarah grew angry and made Abraham force Hagar and Ishmael out of her household.**
- **God reminded Abraham that Isaac would be the chosen son through which Abraham's descendants would follow.**
- **God promised Hagar that Ishmael's descendants would also turn into a great nation.**

3. "Human beings are the crown of God's creation." Explain this statement in detail. **5 pts.**

**L1 P2-4**

- **To understand who we are in God, we need to begin knowing that we are made in the image of God. We are special, the crown of His creation.**
  - **We are unique and different from every other aspect of divine creation. Man is distinct in his moral, intellectual and spiritual capacities. Truly, human life is valuable because every human being, even with all our flaws and faults are still made in the image of God.**
  - **What is man's purpose in creation? God gave man "dominion" over all creation. When God said, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and 2. have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth", he had the "big picture" in mind.**
  - **In the original Hebrew text, "dominion" does not mean "to dominate", "to exploit" or "to control", instead, it means "to be responsible for". God appointed man as "stewards" over His creation;**
  - **He gave us a responsibility.**
4. How did God use Joshua to win the battle of Jericho? **1 pt.**  
What was their battle strategy (how did they approach the city of Jericho)? **2 pts.**  
Who did they spare and why? **2 pts.**

**L13 P56-57**

- **God instructed the Israelites to march around the walls of Jericho for seven days.**
  - **Order of procession was soldiers, priests, ark of covenant and more soldiers**
  - **Warriors remained silent as they circled the city for six days except for the 7<sup>th</sup> day.**
  - **When they invaded Jericho, they were told to put certain items into the treasury like metal, gold, silver and vessels of bronze and iron.**
  - **They Spared Rahab the prostitute who had provided refuge to the spies that had invaded them previously.**
5. In the Garden of Eden and in the wilderness, God gave his people commandments to follow. What was the purpose of the commandments God gave, especially the 10 commandments? **1 pt.**  
What were they meant to prevent people from doing? **1 pt.**  
Did this work? **1 pt.**  
How did God display His love for his people? Why? **2 pts.**

**L4 P15-16**

- **Purpose of the commandments is to provide a path or direction in doing what is right in the sight of God**
- **To prevent them from sinning before God**
- **Although the commandments were given, Adam and Eve and the Israelites still sinned before God.**
- **God sacrificed his son Jesus Christ on the cross for the sins of the world.**
- **He did this so we could reestablish our relationship between God and man that was lost in the Garden of Eden.**

6. Explain why the book of Isaiah is called a miniature Bible. **2 pts.**  
List three topics that Isaiah addressed during his ministry as a prophet in his writing? **3 pts.**

*(Hint: The first chapter of Isaiah is broken out into 2 major sections: the current situation of Israel and God's Solution)*

**L15 P63-64**

- **The book of Isaiah consists of 66 books. First 39 address Old Testament issues and prophecies. Second 27 books address New Testament Themes. 2 pts.**

**Any 3 of the below answers 3 pts. max**

- **Book of Isaiah addresses the problem of sin and rebellion towards God**
- **Isaiah addressed as Israel as an isolated conquered lot in a state very similar to Sodom and Gomorrah.**
- **Adopted Pagan Rituals**
- **Sacrifices became meaningless**
- **Isaiah reminds people that God wants them to obey his commands and he would restore them**

**Section 3 – Memory Verses. Complete any of five (5) of the following. (5 x 5pts = 25 pts. Total)**

1. Not everyone **who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven.** - Matthew 7:21  
**(L16 P71)**
2. David said to Nathan, **“I have sinned against the LORD.”** Nathan said to David, **“Now the LORD has put away your sin; you shall not die.** – 2 Samuel 12:13  
**(L8 P36)**
3. 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  
**(L9 P41)**
4. 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  
**(L6 P26)**
5. For if you keep **silence at 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 such a time as this.** – Esther 4:14  
**(L14 P61)**
6. Jesus answered him, **“Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”** – John 3:3  
**(L17 P74)**

**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. What is the role of the Sabha Council?

- a. To oversee general parish activities
- b. To review the diocesan website and circulars
- c. To help the Metropolitan in the general administration of the Church and carrying out decisions of the Mandalam
- d. To make the questions for the Diocesan Exam

**C MTFV P202**

2. After how many months does the Church accounts have to be presented to the Church Executive Committee?

- a. 3
- b. 4
- c. 5
- d. 6

**A MTFV P202**

3. Which of the following is **NOT** a sacrament?

- a. Holy Communion
- b. Baptism
- c. Offertory
- d. Unction

**C MTFV P199**

4. The Mar Thoma Church has \_\_\_\_\_ forms of ordained ministry.

- a. One
- b. Two
- c. Three
- d. Four

**C MTFV P200**

5. Candles lighted during Holy Communion symbolizes \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. fight against darkness
- b. presence of God
- c. expression of power
- d. none of these

**B MTFV P199**

6. \_\_\_\_\_ is believed to be the founder of the Roman church.

- a. St. Thomas
- b. St. Peter
- c. St. John
- d. Emperor Constantine

**B MTFV P190**

7. Which of these is **NOT** one of the reforms made by Abraham Malpan?

- a. He translated the liturgy into the local language of the people
- b. He preached that salvation is through the grace of God
- c. He canonized all the holy martyrs of India as Saints for the church
- d. All of these

**C MTFV P2194**

8. \_\_\_\_\_ was an explorer who was responsible for ushering Roman Catholicism into India.

- a. Ferdinand Magellan
- b. Giovanni DeVerrazano
- c. Vasco de Gama
- d. Christopher Columbus

**C MTFV P192**

9. The bishops of our church wear the “masnapsa” \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. As a symbol of their submission and sacrifice
- b. Because the cross on it represents the number of years they have served as a bishop
- c. As a symbol of the bishop’s authority over priests and deacons
- d. All of these

**A MTFV P200**

10. The laity members make-up \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the Sabha Prathnidhi Mandalam.

- a. 35
- b. 45
- c. 55
- d. 65

**D MTFV P201**

**Section 5 – Mar Thoma History Short Answer. Answer one of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (1 x 5pts = 5 pts Total)**

1. The liturgy and faith practices of the Mar Thoma church was based on the relationship between the church in Kerala with the East-Syrian and Persian church.
- Describe the sequence of events that led to the establishment of the "Crooked Cross Oath". **3 pts.**
  - What did this oath ensure for the Malabar church? **1 pt.**
  - What does this oath remind us of? **1 pt.**

**MTFV P192-93**

- 3 pts. {
- **The Portuguese became a dominant power and brought Roman Catholicism to the Thomas Christians.**
  - **In addition to conquests and commerce, the Portuguese's mission was to bring the Indian church under the Roman ecclesiastical supremacy.**
  - **The synod of Diamper forced the Indian church to accept Roman doctrine and practices (1599)**
  - **The Malabar Church asserted its freedom and regained its autonomous nature by taking this oath. 1 pt.**
  - **This oath reminds us of the tragic split that took place in the ancient Indian Church; one continuing in the old tradition and the other accepting Roman Catholicism. 1 pt.**

2. List and explain any five elements or components of worship used in the Mar Thoma Church.

**MTFV P198-99 1 pt. ea. (max 5)**

- **Worship:** Worship of God through a corporate body experience which allows us to focus more on worshipping God as a corporate body rather than individuals.
- **Liturgy:** Use of liturgy with theological phrases and scriptural portions
- **Symbolism:** Placing of the altar towards the East since the sun rises in the east
- **Incense:** Represents Sweet smelling sacrifice and prayers rising towards God
- **Candles:** Representing the presence of God and that believers are called to be the light of the world
- **Vestments:** Garments worn by the priest
- **Gestures:** Outward expression of inner penitence, submission, and respect in the presence of God

**Section 6 – Essay. Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in 200 words. (Total 15 points)**

1. In the story of Ananias and Sapphira, explain how God does not tolerate deception. What lesson in this story do you feel you can relate to? Give an example(s). Why is it so important to not let lies and deception affect the church?

**L18 P76-79** *The following is only a suggested response. Actual answers can vary.*

- **During the time of the Apostles, many believers were selling their lands and properties and placing the proceeds at the feet of the apostles. Ananias and Sapphira were husband and wife and sold a piece of property but they kept back a part of the sale proceeds for themselves. When Peter came to the church, Ananias came and placed the money at the feet of the apostles as if he had given all of the money he received from the sale of the land. His wife Sapphira also lied to Peter when Peter asked if what they gave was the full price of the property. Both Ananias and Sapphira died as result of their responses and their bodies were carried out.**
- **In this story, it is not the fact that Ananias and Sapphira kept back a part of the sale for themselves that was the problem. Peter reminded Sapphira that the decision to sell the property was and offer the sale money was theirs. The problem was that they lied to God to make themselves appear holy or holier than the other believers. It was important for everyone to see that God did not want his church to be a place where people spread lies and rumors. God did not want people to believe lying and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ could go hand in hand.**
- **Lying and deception are a major hindrance to the work of the Holy Spirit and can create friction in the church. In this case, God was preventing the church from becoming a place of competition and pride. Spreading the good news requires an environment of fellowship and openness and humility. Pride and deception have no place in the church and in the heart of any follower of Jesus.**

2. In the passage below, Jeremiah speaks of two different covenants.  
 What are the two covenants?  
 Describe the covenants their differences?  
 Which covenant do you think we fall under and why?  
 Discuss some of the highlights or themes in Jeremiah 31 how they can impact people today.

*<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.*

*<sup>35</sup> Thus says the Lord,  
 who gives the sun for light by day  
 and the fixed order of the moon and the stars for light by night,  
 who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—  
 the Lord of hosts is his name:*

*<sup>36</sup> If this fixed order were ever to cease  
 from my presence, says the Lord,  
 then also the offspring of Israel would cease  
 to be a nation before me forever.*

*<sup>37</sup> Thus says the Lord:  
 If the heavens above can be measured,  
 and the foundations of the earth below can be explored,  
 then I will reject all the offspring of Israel  
 because of all they have done,  
 says the Lord.*

(Jeremiah 31:31-37)

**L11 P47-49** *The following is only a suggested response. Actual answers can vary.*

- **The Old and New Covenant**
- **The Old Covenant made with Moses represents the Laws of the Old Testament. A right relationship with God could only be established by following the 10 commandments and other related laws. The laws were written on stones but not in the hearts of the people. The penalty for breaking the commandments was death. Old covenant was used mediators between God and man. The old covenant used animal sacrifices to illustrate how blood would need to be shed for forgiveness.**
- **The New Testament covenant was the covenant with Jesus Christ. The laws of God would be written in the hearts of the believers. The new covenant was one in which God would forgive the sins of his people and remember their wickedness no more. This is possible through the life and death of Jesus Christ on the cross. In the new covenant, Jesus Christ becomes the mediator of the new covenant. His sacrifice puts an end to need to continually sacrifice an animal. In the new covenant, God enters**

- into a deep intimate relationship with each person and offers true forgiveness.**
- **Jeremiah lived in very troubled times. The nation of Israel was falling apart and people were committing wickedness and immorality and were losing sight of God's love and commandments. The people of Israel were invaded by Babylon and were under Babylonian exile for almost 70 years. However Jeremiah 31 discusses some themes such as:**
    - **Homecoming of the Jews from Babylon and their rebuilding and restoration**
    - **End of Rachel's mourning: Symbolizing an end to Israel's spiritual grief**
    - **Gathering of Judah**
    - **Future blessings**
  - **This passage can impact people today because it shows how God had a plan to deliver humanity through the sacrifice of Jesus. Through Jesus we can enter into a real living relationship with God. We can have a relationship where God writes his laws on our hearts and where we can be forgiven of our past and move forward into the future.**



**MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS**  
**DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE**  
**2016 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. Who was given the instruction to cross the Jordan with the Israelites upon the death of Moses?  
a. Joshua                      b. Caleb                      c. Gibeon                      d. Levi  
**A (L7 P38)**
2. Among Job's friends, \_\_\_\_\_ provided comfort and strength, and did not accuse Job for his sufferings.  
a. Eliphaz                      b. Bildad                      c. Zophar                      d. Elihu  
**D (L6 P35)**
3. What is the Latin word that describes the concept of creating from "nothingness"?  
a. Ex Nihilo                      b. Magnum Opus                      c. Carpe Diem                      d. Sanctorum  
**A (L1 P3)**
4. In Isaiah's vision, which of the heavenly beings worshipped God by one calling to another and saying: "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory."?  
a. Cherubim                      b. Seraphim  
c. Angeis                      d. Archangels  
**B (L4 P20)**
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the highest spiritual activity of humans and it is the bridge of fellowship with the divine.  
a. Bible Reading                      b. Worship  
c. Songs                      d. none of these  
**B (L4 P22)**
6. What does the Palestinian covenant demand of the Israelite nation?  
a. Absolute devotion to God                      b. Sacrifices  
c. Celebrate the Lord's feast                      d. Offerings  
**A (L3 P16)**
7. \_\_\_\_\_ is the grand old mother of the tribe of King David.  
a. Naomi                      b. Samaritan woman  
c. Ruth                      d. Mary Magdalene  
**C (L8 P16)**
8. What was the prophet Amos's original profession?  
a. Shepherd & Farmer                      b. Josiah  
c. Tentmaker & Carpenter                      d. Fisherman  
**A (L14 P76)**

9. Which of the following is a petition made by Jesus during his high priestly prayer?
- a. For Unity
  - b. For Judgment
  - c. For Kindness
  - d. For Gentleness

**B (L20 P107)**

10. Apologetics is the science and art of:
- a. Apologizing
  - b. Defending the faith
  - c. Repentance
  - d. Self-Sacrifice

**B (L5 P27)**

11. How many Sons and Daughters did Job have?
- a. 12 Sons & 5 Daughters
  - b. 7 Sons & 5 Daughters
  - c. 12 Sons & 3 Daughters
  - d. 7 Sons & 3 Daughters

**D (L6 P33)**

12. What does sanctification mean?
- a. Unmerited favor
  - b. Demonstrated to be right
  - c. Set apart to be holy
  - d. Faith in what we do not see

**C (L10 P55)**

13. Who was the trained priest with proven prophetic abilities?
- a. Solomon
  - b. Ezekiel
  - c. Eli
  - d. Moses

**B (L11 P60)**

14. What does the name *Joel* mean?
- a. The Lord saves
  - b. The Lord reigns
  - c. The Lord is God
  - d. the Lord is eternal

**C (L12 P66)**

15. Which bishop refused to compromise his beliefs and was burnt alive in Asia Minor between 1st and 2nd century?

- a. Bishop Polycarp
- b. Abraham Malpan
- c. Sarah Flower Adams
- d. Lucius of Cyrene

**A (L9 P49)**

16. \_\_\_\_\_ is considered to be one of the greatest Christian apologists.

- a. Frances Jane Crosby
- b. C. S. Lewis
- c. Sarah Flower Adams
- d. Billy Graham

**B (L5 P27)**

17. The Edomites were descended from \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Jacob
- b. Ahab
- c. Philistines
- d. Esau

**D (L13 P71)**

18. Who stepped forward and prayed, "Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command."

- a. Elisha
- b. Obadiah
- c. Baal's prophets
- d. Elijah

**D (L2 P6)**

19. Which of the following descriptions accurately describes Nicodemus?  
a. A leader of Jews    b. A Pharisee    c. Teacher of Israel    d. All of the above  
**D (L17 P89)**

20. As the "Crown of Creation", what is the role of human beings in the created universe?  
a. To act as owners    b. To be stewards and caretakers  
c. Exploiting it for our desires    d. Being oblivious to it  
**B (L1 P3)**

21. Which of the following is NOT one of the destructions explained by the prophet Joel?  
a. Rivers turn into blood    b. Nation was invaded  
c. Locust laid everything to waste    d. Food is cut off  
**A (L17 P66)**

22. In the second year of King Darius, King of Persia, the word of the Lord came by prophet \_\_\_\_\_ to Zerubabel.  
a. Ezekiel    b. Obadiah    c. Isaiah    d. Jeremiah  
**B (L15 P81)**

23. Which statement is NOT true about John the Baptist?  
a. He is the voice of the one crying out in the wilderness  
b. Preached, "Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is near"  
c. Forerunner and witness of Jesus  
d. He was very friendly with the Pharisees  
**D (L18 P94 & P96)**

24. The \_\_\_\_\_ is also known as the "Land Covenant".  
a. Mosaic Covenant    b. Davidic Covenant  
c. Palestinian Covenant    d. New Covenant  
**C (L3 P15)**

25. \_\_\_\_\_ was amazed at the faith of \_\_\_\_\_ and said, "I have not found such great faith even in Israel."  
a. Jesus, the Centurion    b. Jesus, the Disciples  
c. Moses, Joshua    d. Jesus, the Pharisees  
**A (L9 P51)**

**SECTION 2: Short Answers - Answer any four (4) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5 pts. Ea. = 20 pts. Total)**

1. What was the fundamental message of John the Baptist as seen in his sermon in Luke 3?  
What criticisms and advice did he give to different groups?  
What was his message to King Herod?

**(L198 P96) 1 pt. each**

- 1. Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near**
- 2. He condemned the wealthy people for their luxurious lifestyle**
- 3. He told tax collectors not to collect more than the amounts they are supposed to.**

4. **He told the soldiers not to extort money from anyone by threats or false accusations and be satisfied with their wages.**
  5. **He rebuked King Herod for his immoral activity and did not fear the consequences of his message.**
2. Christians are called to be warriors in the war being waged in the spiritual realm. What are the five pieces of the "Armor of God" that prepares believers for this task?

**(L19 P102)**

**1 pt each**

- a. **The Belt of Truth**
  - b. **Breastplate of Righteousness**
  - c. **Shield of Faith**
  - d. **Helmet of Salvation**
  - e. **Sword of the Spirit (Word of God)**
3. In a conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus about the Kingdom of God, what does "being born from above" mean? What four points are clear from below verse?

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." - John 3:16*

**(L17 P91) 1 pt. each**

- a. **Being born from above refers to those who submit to the will of the "Holy Spirit"**
  - b. **Four Points include:**
    - **Loved the world**
    - **Gave his beloved Son to the World**
    - **All people who believe in the Son will have eternal life.**
    - **All people who do not believe in the Son will perish.**
4. What is the overall tone of the prophet Obadiah towards the Edom?  
 What are the historical relations between Israel and Edom?  
 What was the attitude and actions of Edom in response to the pillaging of Jerusalem by the Babylonians?  
 What are the consequences for Edom?

**(L13 P71)**

- **The overall tone of the prophet is one of bitterness towards Edom (1 pt.)**
- **The Edomites are descendants of Esau and there are references of kinship and enmity between the two nations. (1 pt.)**
- **Edom rejoiced in the conquest of Jerusalem and took part in the pillaging the city. The prevented the fleeing survivors from escaping the Babylonians. (2 pts.)**
- **Edom's hold on its enmity with Israel would cause judgment from the Lord and result in destruction of Edom. (1 pt.)**

5. What are the four initial losses Job suffered and what was his reaction to these events?

**(L6 P34) 1 pt. each**

**Four Losses:**

- 1. The Sabeans carried off the donkeys and oxen and killed the servants.**
- 2. The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants.**
- 3. The Chaldeans conducted a raid and carried off the camels.**
- 4. While Job's children were feasting in their elder brother's house, a wind caused the house to collapse and they died.**

**His Reaction:**

**Upon hearing this, Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worked him**

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

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

- 1. He said, "Naked I come from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."**  
Job 1:21  
**(L6 P37)**
- 2. 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..."**  
1 Timothy 4:7-8a  
**(L19 P104)**
- 3. But if not, be it known to you O king that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up."**  
Daniel 3: 18  
**(L9 P52)**
- 4. "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**  
Matthew 5:10  
**(L16 P87)**
- 5. I hereby command you, 'Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.'**  
John 3:30  
**(L7 P42)**
- 6. But let justice roll down like the waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**  
Amos 5:24  
**(L14 P78)**

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the official mission wing of the Mar Thoma Church
  - a. Sunday school
  - b. Mar Thoma Evangelistic Assoc.
  - c. Suvishesha Sevika Sanghom
  - d. Edavaka Mission**B MTFV P240**
  
2. All of the following institutions and centers are run by the Mar Thoma Church **except**:
  - a. Rehabilitation and Development for the Mentally challenged
  - b. Medical Centers
  - c. Rehabilitation centers for the Physically Challenged
  - d. Bishop training colleges**D MTFV P235-36**
  
3. The Mar Thoma Evanelistic Association was established in \_\_\_\_\_ A.D and served as an indigenous missionary movement in India
  - a. 1776
  - b. 1848
  - c. 1888
  - d. 1988**C (MTFV P220)**
  
4. \_\_\_\_\_ is known to have said that, “Every child is precious; every child is a gift from God.”
  - a. Rt. Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma
  - b. Mother Teresa
  - c. Dr. E. Stanley Jones
  - d. Pope John XXIII**B (MTFV P222)**
  
5. Sharing the gospel through preaching, teaching and community services became the threefold emphasis of the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Edavaka Mission
  - b. Adult literacy movement
  - c. Ashram movement
  - d. Sunday school**C (MTFV P242)**
  
6. “*Koinonia*” is the \_\_\_\_\_ word for communion and fellowship.
  - a. Roman
  - b. Hebrew
  - c. Greek
  - d. Syraic**C (MTFV P217)**
  
7. What is the name of the book that Dr. Stanley Jones wrote?
  - a. The Christ of the Indian Roads
  - b. How to be like Jesus
  - c. Missionary: God’s Calling
  - d. Heaven is for Real**A (MTFV P228)**
  
8. Sneha Bhavan is an example of a \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Guidance Center
  - b. Shelter for the destitute & homeless
  - c. Old Age Home
  - d. Medical Center

**C (MTFV P237)**

9. Who laid the foundation of the Mar Thoma Church in North America?
- a. Thomas Mar Athanasius
  - b. Mathews Mar Athanasius
  - c. Alexander Mar Thoma Metropolitan
  - d. Geevarghese Mar Theodosius

**A (MTFV P221)**

10. Where in India did Dr. Stanley Jones establish an ashram?

- a. Calcutta
- b. Delhi
- c. Pune
- d. Sat Tal

**D (MTFV P229)**

**SECTION 5: Short Answer on Mar Thoma Church History - Answer one of the following questions. Answer shall be brief and to the point. (1 x 5 pts. = 5 pts. Total)**

1. Name any two major contributions of the late Most Rev. Dr. Alexander Mar Thoma?

**(MTFV L2 P223-24)**

**Any 2, 2.5 each**

- a. **He had passion and zeal for mission. He called to send missionaries throughout India and started new mission fields in remote villages. He challenged members to strengthen their spiritual life through parish mission, prayer groups, and intensive study of the scripture**
- b. **He had a prophetic mission. He fulfilled his prophetic role of the priest and continuously challenged social evils that weaken the spiritual life of members of the church and community. He fought for abolition of liquor, exhorted people to end corruption, and fight injustice and inequalities within society and the church.**
- c. **His concern for the poor. He was not pleased with the material progress of the Church that left behind the economically weaker members of the church. He wanted the Church to be more inclusive of the less fortunate among members and in society without regard for creed, religion, or caste. Recognition was granted to the congregations of the Mar Thoma Dalits as independent parishes giving representation in the Sabha Padhinidhi Mandalam.**

2. What is mission? What is Ministry?

**(MTFV P117)**

**2.5 pts each**

- a. **Mission of the church is centrifugal – reaching out and bringing people into the fellowship of the church**
- b. **Ministry is centripetal – taking care of the people’s total needs. Diakonial mission of Christ to serve the total needs of the people. Involvement of both priests and laity. Church follows the “Feed my Lamb commission taking care of social, economic, and spiritual needs of the Christian community.**

**SECTION 6: Essay - Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in 200 words. (15 pts. Total)**

1. God has utilized prophets throughout history to convey truths to the people. Similarly, the prophet Amos was used by God to address the issues that were prevalent in the society. Write an essay including the following:
  - a. Introduction **(1pts.)**
  - b. A brief biography of Amos **(3 pts.)**
  - c. The situation of Israel/Judah during the time of Amos **(4 pts.)**
  - d. The message of Amos. **(4 pts.)**
  - e. Christian response to similar issues in today's society/ Biblical Guidelines to us **(3 pts.)**

**(L14)**

- a. **Introduction**
- b. **Amos from Tekoa in Southern Kingdom of Judah. He was a farmer/shepherd and looked after sycamore fig trees. He prophesied during King Uzziah in Judah and King Jeroboam II in Israel. He was the first prophet to use the term “the Day of the Lord.” Amos was a vigorous spokesman for God’s justice and righteousness.**
- c. **Both kingdoms were prosperous and successful politically and militaristically. It was a time of idolatry, extravagant indulgence in luxurious living, immorality, corruption of judicial procedures, and oppression of the poor. This was a low point in their devotion to God. People became greedy and didn’t adhere to values. Wealthy were becoming rich at the expense of others. Peasants who practiced subsistence farming were forced to farm what is best for foreign trade, mostly wine and oil.**
- d. **Message of Amos – “But let justice roll down like the waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.” God was urging his rebellious children to change their ways and live a life pleasing to God. Amos declared that God was going to judge his unfaithful, disobedient, covenant-breaking people. He spoke against the sins of pagan worship, idolatry, greed, corrupted leadership, and oppression of the poor. God would uproot his chosen people by the hands of a pagan nation. Beyond the pending judgment, house of David would again rule over Israel and extend rule over many nations. Israel would once again be secure in the Promised Land and God would not abandon His chosen people again.**
- e. **Christian Response to Social Injustice – Love thy neighbor as thyself as seen in the example of the Good Samaritan. Both old and new testaments show us that we should have concern for the poor and needy; we must be just and merciful in all our dealings with others. Do unto others as you would have others do to you. Every human being especially those in leadership has a God-given moral duty to protect**

**fellow human beings from social injustices. Pursuing social justice is a moral responsibility of the church and Christians.**

2. In a world full of troubles, Jesus reassured the people of His time by teaching them the Beatitudes which always points towards the Kingdom of Heaven. Explain the meaning of the beatitude and their overall message. Include:
  - a. Introduction **(1 pt.)**
  - b. What are the parts of the beatitudes? **(3 pts.)**
  - c. Explain each of the beatitudes **(1 pt. x 9 = 9 pts. Total)**
  - d. Conclusion – What is the overall focus/message of the beatitudes? **(2 pts.)**

**(L16)**

- a. **The beatitudes are statements of blessedness that follow a formulaic expression. It is a part of the Sermon on the Mount. Beatitudes point towards Kingdom of Heaven.**
- b. **The beatitudes have three parts. 1) The adjective “blessed”, 2) identifying the subject that is “blessed”, 3) The condition assuring blessedness.**
- c. **There are nine subheadings of blessedness and each separate description of blessedness per condition.**
  1. **“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.” – Fundamental attitude of believers. Refers to those who are spiritually poor who have humbled themselves before God, acknowledging their sinful nature, and their need for a savior. This is the attitude that believers should possess- their need for God and a relationship with him.**
  2. **“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted – an everlasting hope for believers.” Mourning comes with the significant loss (loved one, broken relationships, etc.) Out of mourning comes hope. Jesus will be the comfort and hope.**
  3. **“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth” – A spirit of gentleness and self-control possessed by believers. Meek people possess a spirit of gentleness, do not oppress others, free from malice. Also mentioned as one of the fruits of the spirit. Jesus wasn’t speaking of the physical earth, rather to the promised land. The earth exemplifies security and inheritance of God.**
  4. **“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.” – The yearning nature of the believer for the Lord’s vision. Those who have a constant desire to seek uprightness and God’s ways will be filled.**
  5. **“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.” – The forgiving nature of the believer. An outward expression of dependence on the Lord. Having mercy acknowledges our own shortcomings which enables us to show**

mercy to others. Lord will show mercy on those who show mercy it means we have understood the grace granted to us.

6. **“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”** – The vision and seeking of God by believers. Pure in heart refers to actions of a believer that are aligned with God’s vision and deemed good in God’s eyes. This mind enables us to “see God”. This promise demands faith.
  7. **“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”** – The advancement of the Kingdom of by believers. This is not the ceasing of hostilities and war within the world. Peacemakers are characterized as those who focus on harmonious communities and promoting the Kingdom of God on earth. “Children of God” means a greater relationship with God working the way Jesus worked.
  8. **“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.”** – The perseverance of believers. The world is broken and far from God and those who are seeking righteousness will be persecuted. Jesus assures a great reward for being persecuted for righteous living.
  9. **“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”** – The great reward for believers. This beatitude focuses on the individual you and Jesus and that Jesus is the center of the beatitudes. Persecution against believers for Jesus’ sake will result in a great reward in heaven. This is showing the aspect of martyrdom and perseverance through trial
- d. The focus of the Beatitudes is reward based on the level of spiritual experience and relation with God rather than material recompense. Jesus talks about spiritual wealth gained from present suffering experienced (daily taking up His Cross). These are rewards for true believers.