

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL  
ADVANCED CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION  
EXAMINATION**

**114/2**

**DIVINITY 2**

(For Both School and Private Candidates)

**Time : 3 Hours**

**ANSWERS**

**Year : 2011**

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**Instructions**

1. This paper consists of Alternative **seven (7)** questions in parts I and II.
2. Answer **three (3)** questions from part I and **two (2)** question from part II.
3. Each question carries **twenty (20)** marks.
4. Bibles and other unauthorised materials are **not** allowed in the examination room.
5. Write your **Examination Number** on every page of your answer booklet(s).

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## **Part I: The Four Gospels**

Answer any three (3) questions from this part.

### **1. Explain how Jesus used parables to teach moral lessons. Illustrate your answer with three parables from the Synoptic Gospels.**

Jesus used parables to teach moral lessons because they conveyed deep spiritual truths in simple, relatable stories that ordinary people could understand. Parables often used familiar everyday events, objects, or situations to explain abstract spiritual concepts, making the lessons memorable.

The parable of the **Good Samaritan** (Luke 10:25-37) teaches the moral lesson of loving one's neighbor beyond cultural, social, or racial boundaries. It emphasizes compassion, mercy, and active help to those in need, showing that true neighborliness is defined by action rather than identity.

The parable of the **Prodigal Son** (Luke 15:11-32) illustrates the importance of repentance, forgiveness, and God's unconditional love. It teaches that no matter how far one strays, God welcomes those who return with humility, highlighting the virtues of humility, forgiveness, and familial love.

The parable of the **Sower** (Matthew 13:1-23) shows that receiving the word of God requires an open and prepared heart. Different types of soil in the story represent various human responses to God's message, teaching the lesson that spiritual growth depends on receptivity, commitment, and perseverance.

### **2. Discuss the significance of Jesus' miracles in demonstrating his authority and divinity. Give at least four examples and their lessons.**

Jesus' miracles demonstrated his authority over nature, illness, and spiritual forces, confirming his divine identity. They showed that God's power worked through him, establishing him as more than a teacher or prophet.

The **miracle of calming the storm** (Mark 4:35-41) teaches that Jesus has authority over nature. It assures believers that even in life's storms, faith in him brings peace and security.

The **healing of the blind man** (John 9:1-12) demonstrates Jesus' power to restore physical sight, symbolizing spiritual insight. It shows that faith in Jesus leads to both physical and spiritual restoration.

The **feeding of the five thousand** (Matthew 14:13-21) illustrates Jesus' compassion and his authority to provide abundantly. This miracle teaches reliance on God for provision and the importance of sharing blessings with others.

The **raising of Lazarus** (John 11:1-44) shows Jesus' authority over life and death. It reveals that Jesus has power to grant eternal life and offers hope to believers that death is not the end for those who trust in him.

### **3. Analyze the meaning of the following statements made by Jesus: (a-d)**

#### **(a) "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:3)**

This statement emphasizes humility and dependence on God. Being "poor in spirit" means recognizing one's spiritual need and seeking God's guidance, which leads to belonging in God's kingdom.

#### **(b) "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden" (Matthew 5:14)**

Jesus encourages his followers to live exemplary lives that reflect God's goodness. Like a city on a hill, believers' actions and faith should influence and guide others positively in society.

#### **(c) "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God" (Mark 10:25)**

This teaches that attachment to wealth can hinder spiritual growth. True discipleship requires prioritizing God over material possessions, demonstrating the dangers of greed and materialism.

#### **(d) "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the servant of all" (Mark 9:35)**

Jesus redefines greatness as service. Leadership in God's kingdom is shown through humility and serving others, teaching that power and influence are measured by selfless service, not personal gain.

### **4. Explain how the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1 highlights the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies and the role of key women in salvation history. Give six points.**

The genealogy shows that Jesus is a descendant of **Abraham**, fulfilling the promise that through Abraham all nations would be blessed (Genesis 12:3).

It also traces Jesus' lineage through **David**, fulfilling the prophecy that the Messiah would come from David's line (2 Samuel 7:12-16).

The inclusion of **Tamar** highlights God's mercy and justice, showing that even unconventional circumstances were part of God's plan for salvation.

**Rahab's** presence demonstrates that God's plan includes outsiders and those who were once sinners, emphasizing redemption.

**Ruth**, a Moabite, shows God's inclusivity, indicating that faithfulness, not ethnicity alone, grants a place in God's kingdom.

**Bathsheba (referred to as "the wife of Uriah")** illustrates that God can bring good from morally complex situations, emphasizing grace and divine purpose throughout history.

## **Part II: The Apostolic Age**

Answer any two (2) questions from this part.

**5. Describe the role of the Apostles in spreading the gospel after Jesus' ascension. Highlight the methods they used and challenges they faced.**

The Apostles were witnesses to Jesus' resurrection, giving them authority to proclaim the gospel. They traveled extensively to preach about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

They performed miracles and healings, which validated their message and attracted followers, demonstrating that the same divine power worked through them.

They organized early Christian communities, teaching converts the teachings of Jesus, baptizing believers, and promoting fellowship, ensuring continuity of faith.

The Apostles faced persecution from religious and political authorities, including imprisonment and threats, yet remained steadfast, demonstrating courage and commitment to God's mission.

**6. Discuss the significance of Pentecost in the establishment of the early church. Include at least four points. (20 marks)**

Pentecost marked the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, empowering the Apostles to preach boldly and perform miracles. This demonstrated God's presence in the church.

It enabled the Apostles to speak in different languages, spreading the gospel to diverse communities, fulfilling Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations.

Pentecost created a sense of unity and purpose among early believers, establishing the communal life of the church based on faith, teaching, fellowship, and prayer.

It signified the beginning of the church's public ministry, showing that the Holy Spirit equips believers to continue Jesus' mission on earth.

**7. Explain how the early Christian community practiced fellowship and communal living according to Acts 2:42-47, and discuss its relevance to churches today.**

The early Christians devoted themselves to apostolic teaching, learning from the Apostles to understand Jesus' message deeply.

They practiced fellowship, sharing meals and resources, demonstrating care and mutual support among members.

They broke bread and prayed together, showing spiritual unity and dependence on God.

They shared possessions according to need, ensuring no one in the community suffered, which teaches modern churches the importance of generosity and social responsibility.

Their communal life encouraged growth in numbers, as new believers were drawn by the example of unity, love, and generosity, providing a model for church growth today.