

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

114/2

DIVINITY 2

(For Both School and Private Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

ANSWERS

Year: 2013

Instructions:

1. this paper consists of Ten questions.
2. Answer five questions. Question number one is compulsory
3. Each question carries twenty marks.

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1. Recite the dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman in John 4:1-42 and give four lessons you can learn from the dialogue.

Ans: The dialogue between Jesus and the Samaritan woman highlights themes of salvation, worship, and transformation. Jesus asks for water, offers living water, and reveals his identity as the Messiah. Lessons include:

- a) Breaking barriers: Jesus interacts with a Samaritan woman despite cultural and religious divisions, teaching inclusivity and love, similar to Romans 10:12, which affirms there is no difference between Jew and Gentile.
- b) Spiritual fulfillment: Jesus offers living water, symbolizing eternal life, aligning with Romans 6:23, which states that the gift of God is eternal life through Christ.
- c) True worship: Jesus emphasizes worship in spirit and truth, reflecting Romans 12:1, where believers are urged to offer their bodies as living sacrifices.
- d) Witnessing faith: The woman testifies to her community, leading others to Christ, resonating with Romans 10:14, which underscores the importance of preaching for faith.

2. Prepare a commentary on each of the following statements:

- a) "Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:29)

Ans: Jesus asks this question to his disciples to reveal their understanding of his identity. Peter's response, "You are the Christ," signifies the recognition of Jesus as the Messiah. This reflects the central message of salvation, as Romans 10:9 states that confessing Jesus as Lord leads to salvation.

- b) "I do not know this man of whom you speak" (Mark 14:71)

Ans: Peter denies Jesus during his trial out of fear, showing human weakness. This highlights the need for grace and restoration, as seen in Romans 5:20, where grace abounds even in sin.

- c) "And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, 'My son, your sins are forgiven'" (Mark 2:5)

Ans: Jesus acknowledges the faith of the friends who brought the paralytic, emphasizing the power of faith in receiving forgiveness and healing. This aligns with Romans 5:1, which speaks of justification through faith.

- d) "And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell" (Mark 10:45)

Ans: Jesus uses hyperbole to stress the seriousness of sin and the need for repentance. This reflects Romans 6:23, which warns of the wages of sin being death, urging believers to pursue righteousness.

3. According to the Synoptic Gospels, Jesus underwent Jewish baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins though he had no sins:

a) Explain the significance of Jesus undergoing Jewish baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins (give at least seven points).

Ans:

i) Identification with sinners: By being baptized, Jesus identified with humanity's need for repentance and salvation, reflecting Romans 8:3, which speaks of Christ taking on human likeness to condemn sin.

ii) Fulfillment of righteousness: Jesus' baptism fulfilled all righteousness, showing obedience to God's will, as seen in Romans 5:19, where the obedience of one man leads to justification.

iii) Inauguration of ministry: His baptism marked the beginning of his public ministry, demonstrating readiness to fulfill his divine mission, aligning with Romans 1:4, which speaks of Jesus being declared the Son of God in power.

iv) Revelation of the Trinity: The Father's voice, the Spirit's descent, and Jesus' presence revealed the triune nature of God, supporting Romans 1:20, which speaks of God's invisible qualities being clearly seen.

v) Example for believers: Jesus set a model for baptism, encouraging believers to follow in his steps, as noted in Romans 6:4, which emphasizes walking in newness of life.

vi) Affirmation by the Father: God's declaration, "This is my beloved Son," confirmed Jesus' identity and mission, reflecting Romans 8:16, where the Spirit testifies to our identity as God's children.

vii) Symbol of death and resurrection: Jesus' immersion symbolized his future death, burial, and resurrection, aligning with Romans 6:5, which speaks of being united with Christ in his resurrection.

b) Explain the importance of baptism in today's community of believers (give at least three points).

Ans:

i) Public declaration of faith: Baptism serves as an outward testimony of inward faith in Christ, reflecting Romans 10:9, which emphasizes confessing Jesus as Lord.

ii) Symbol of new life: It represents dying to sin and rising to a new life in Christ, aligning with Romans 6:4, which speaks of walking in newness of life.

iii) Unity in Christ: Baptism signifies unity with other believers, breaking down divisions, as reflected in Romans 12:5, which speaks of being one body in Christ.

4. The writer of the Gospel of Matthew begins by mentioning three key figures to show that his gospel was written by a Jew for Jews. Justify that the author was a Jew writing to the Jews by giving eight points.

Ans:

i) Genealogy of Jesus: Matthew traces Jesus' lineage to Abraham and David, emphasizing his Jewish heritage and messianic fulfillment, as reflected in Romans 9:5, which speaks of Christ's ancestry.

ii) Fulfillment of prophecy: Matthew frequently uses phrases like "this was to fulfill," showing how Jesus fulfills Jewish Scriptures, resonating with Romans 3:21, which speaks of the law and prophets testifying to righteousness.

iii) Emphasis on the law: Matthew highlights Jesus' respect for the law, such as in the Sermon on the Mount, aligning with Romans 7:12, which describes the law as holy and good.

iv) Use of Jewish customs: The Gospel frequently references Jewish traditions and practices, showing familiarity with them, as also seen in Romans 4:9-10, discussing circumcision.

v) Focus on the Kingdom of Heaven: Matthew uses this phrase instead of "Kingdom of God," reflecting Jewish sensitivity to God's name, similar to Paul's reverence in Romans 11:33.

vi) Presentation of Jesus as Messiah: Matthew portrays Jesus as the fulfillment of messianic expectations, reflecting Romans 15:8, which describes Christ as a servant to confirm the promises to the patriarchs.

vii) Address to Jewish controversies: Matthew addresses issues like Sabbath laws, engaging directly with Jewish concerns, resonating with Romans 14:5, which speaks of differing views on holy days.

viii) Inclusion of Gentiles: While primarily addressing Jews, Matthew foreshadows the inclusion of Gentiles, as seen in the Great Commission, aligning with Romans 10:12, which affirms no distinction between Jew and Gentile.

5. According to The Acts of the Apostles chapter 5, Ananias and his wife showed how people were greedy for wealth in the church:

a) In three paragraphs, describe the greed of Ananias and Sapphira and show the outcome of their greed to them and their church.

Ans: Ananias and Sapphira sold a piece of property but kept part of the proceeds for themselves while pretending to give all of it to the apostles. Their deceit was rooted in greed, as they sought to appear

generous while withholding money. This behavior reflects Romans 1:29, which lists greed among the sins of humanity.

When confronted by Peter, Ananias lied about the amount, leading to his immediate death as divine judgment. Later, Sapphira repeated the lie and suffered the same fate. Their punishment serves as a warning against hypocrisy and greed, reflecting Romans 6:23, which states the wages of sin is death.

The outcome on the church was fear and awe, as believers recognized the seriousness of sin. This incident strengthened the church's commitment to integrity, aligning with Romans 12:2, which calls for believers to be transformed and avoid conforming to the world's standards.

b) Explain how Christians demonstrate

their greed in the church today and what the church should do if one misappropriates community properties. (Give seven points).

Ans:

i) Misuse of offerings: Some Christians divert church funds for personal gain, reflecting the greed condemned in Romans 1:29, which lists greed among sins.

ii) Seeking positions for profit: Individuals may seek leadership roles in the church for financial benefits rather than spiritual service, contrary to Romans 12:7, which calls for serving sincerely.

iii) Hoarding resources: Wealthy members may withhold support for church projects while seeking recognition for minimal contributions, contradicting Romans 12:8, which encourages generosity.

iv) Exploiting others: Some manipulate fellow believers for financial gain, disregarding Romans 13:10, which states that love does no harm to a neighbor.

v) Overemphasis on material blessings: Some churches promote prosperity teachings, leading members to prioritize wealth over spiritual growth, misinterpreting Romans 8:6, which speaks of setting the mind on the Spirit.

vi) Neglecting the needy: Christians may focus on personal wealth while ignoring the needs of others in the church, going against Romans 15:1, which urges the strong to bear the weak.

vii) False donations: Like Ananias and Sapphira, some make exaggerated claims about their giving to gain recognition, reflecting a lack of honesty and humility condemned in Romans 12:3.

To address such issues, the church should:

- Implement transparency in financial matters.

- Emphasize teachings on contentment and stewardship.
- Hold accountable those who misappropriate funds.
- Foster a culture of generosity and integrity.
- Encourage confession and restitution for wrongdoing.
- Promote spiritual maturity through discipleship.
- Reaffirm the biblical purpose of giving, as seen in Romans 12:13, which calls for sharing with those in need.

6. Some people claim that they have no sin. Use Paul's Letter to the Romans to nullify their claim by giving eight points.

Ans:

- i) Universality of sin: Romans 3:23 states that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, emphasizing the universal nature of sin.
- ii) Consequences of sin: Romans 6:23 declares that the wages of sin is death, showing that sin affects everyone and has dire consequences.
- iii) Law reveals sin: Romans 7:7 explains that the law makes people aware of their sins, proving that no one is righteous on their own.
- iv) None is righteous: Romans 3:10 affirms that no one is righteous, not even one, nullifying claims of sinlessness.
- v) Sin entered through Adam: Romans 5:12 teaches that sin came into the world through one man, Adam, and death spread to all because all sinned.
- vi) Need for redemption: Romans 3:24 highlights that justification comes through grace, implying that everyone needs redemption from sin.
- vii) Struggle with sin: Romans 7:19 describes Paul's personal struggle with sin, showing that even the most devout believers battle with sin.
- viii) God's mercy: Romans 9:15 emphasizes that salvation depends on God's mercy, not human merit, confirming that all are sinners in need of grace.

These points collectively demonstrate that sin is a universal condition, and no one can claim to be without sin. Only through faith in Christ can one be justified and saved.

7. Answer the following questions according to Paul's first letter to the Corinthians:

a) "All things are lawful, but not all things are helpful" (1 Corinthians 10:23). Explain Paul's teaching in connection to this statement and show how relevant it is today (give at least three points).

Ans:

Paul emphasizes that while Christians have freedom in Christ, this liberty should not be abused in ways that harm others or hinder spiritual growth. His teaching reflects the principles of love, responsibility, and self-control:

i) Consideration for others: Christians should ensure that their actions do not cause others to stumble in their faith, as seen in Romans 14:21, where Paul advises against eating or drinking anything that causes a brother to fall.

ii) Building up the church: Actions should contribute to the spiritual growth and unity of the church, aligning with Romans 15:2, which calls for building up one another.

iii) Glorifying God: Freedom should be exercised in ways that honor God, reflecting Romans 12:1, which urges believers to present their bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God.

Relevance today:

- Social media use: While sharing opinions is lawful, not all posts are helpful or edifying.
- Personal freedoms: Engaging in permissible activities (e.g., drinking) should not harm weaker believers.
- Ethical decisions: Choices in business, relationships, or entertainment should reflect responsibility and consideration for others.

This teaching remains essential for guiding believers to exercise their freedoms in love and wisdom.

b) The people of Corinth praised the gifts of the Holy Spirit. How did their attitude towards spiritual gifts endanger the unity of the church? (Give at least three points).

Ans:

The Corinthians' misuse of spiritual gifts caused divisions and disrupted the unity of the church. Paul addressed this issue in 1 Corinthians 12-14, emphasizing that all gifts are meant to build up the body of Christ:

i) Pride and superiority: Some believers considered their gifts (e.g., speaking in tongues) superior, leading to arrogance and divisions, contrary to Romans 12:3, which warns against thinking of oneself more highly than one ought.

ii) Neglect of love: The Corinthians prioritized gifts over love, disregarding the principle in Romans 13:10, which states that love fulfills the law.

iii) Lack of order: Uncontrolled use of gifts during worship created confusion, undermining unity and order, as Paul advocates in Romans 14:19 for pursuing what makes for peace and mutual upbuilding.

To address these issues, Paul emphasized that gifts should be used for the common good, with love as the guiding principle (1 Corinthians 13:1-13). This teaching reminds believers to value unity and edification above personal recognition.