



"Investing in Africa's Future"

**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY, HUMANITIES AND
EDUCATION
INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**NTBS518 MAJOR THEMES IN THE STUDY OF PAULINE AND NON-PAULINE
LITERATURE**

END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

MAY-JUNE 2020

LECTURER: REV. DR. L CHABATA

DURATION: 48 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do NOT write your name on the answer sheet
2. Answer **ONE** Question
3. Credit will be given for neat, well-written and lucid work.

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1. Paul is the earliest literary evidence in the New Testament (NT). Therefore, the figure and theology of Paul is critical for a reconstruction of the history and theology of the New Testament. Yet, the NT books present Paul in a confusing, if not, contradictory manner.
 - a) Give a critical summary of the scholarly arguments on the historical reliability of Acts' presentation of Paul. [20]
 - b) Give a critical summary of the scholarly arguments regarding themes in Ephesians, Colossians and the Pastoral Letters, and reasons for the scholars to doubt the authenticity of these NT books as Pauline. [30]
 - c) From your own inductive reading of the book of Acts and the thirteen letters traditionally attributed to Paul show how it may be possible to come out with four different 'Pauls' from these NT books. [50]

2. In 1977, E.P. Sanders published a book, *Paul and Palestinian Judaism*, views of which gave birth to a movement in Pauline Studies referred to as the 'New Perspective in Paul' movement.
 - a) Give a critical summary of the main arguments of the scholars belonging to the 'Old Perspective in Paul.' [20]
 - b) Give a critical summary of the main arguments of the 'New Perspective in Paul' movement, and explain how the 'Post New Perspective in Paul' movement developed from it. [40]
 - c) From the critical summaries in a) and b) above, examine Paul's views on faith, works and the law and come up with your own position whether or not Paul was in agreement with other NT writers like James and Matthew. [40]

3. The NT is supposed to be interpreted in such a way that it speaks for posterity. How would you interpret the following Pauline themes from an African perspective:
 - a) The Lord's Supper [30]
 - b) Propitiation/appeasement as it relates to the death of Christ [30]
 - c) Christ's resurrection and the resurrection of the dead [40]

-THE END-