



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY, HUMANITIES & EDUCATION

INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

DIV1202 JESUS AND THE GOSPELS

END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

MAY/JUN, 2026

LECTURER: DR. C. MWANDAYI

DURATION: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This paper contains **TWO** sections (Section A and Section B).
2. Section A is **COMPULSORY**.
3. Answer **ANY TWO (2) questions** from Section B.
4. Start each question on a new page in your booklet.
5. Credit will be awarded for logical, systematic and neat presentation
6. Do not repeat material.

SECTION A: COMPULSORY

INSTRUCTION: *Answer Question 1.*

Question One

Discuss the hurdles faced in trying to give a chronological account of Jesus' life.

[40 marks]

SECTION B

INSTRUCTION: *Answer ANY TWO (2) questions.*

Question Two

Critique the role of Apocalypticism during the 1st Century and in our contemporary times.

[30 marks]

Question Three

Analyze the historicity of the Gospels' accounts of Jesus' life.

[30 marks]

Question Four

Assess what can be known about the historical Jesus through non-biblical sources. **[30 marks]**

Question Five

Discuss the methods and limitations of historical Jesus research.

[30 marks]

Question Six

Discuss the authorship, purpose, date and theology of the gospel of Matthew.

[30 marks]



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SECTION A: COMPULSORY

INSTRUCTION: *Answer Question 1.*

1. Martin Kähler (1892) described the Gospel according to Mark as ‘a Passion Narrative with extended introduction.’ Discuss. **[40 marks]**

SECTION B

INSTRUCTION: *Answer ANY TWO (2) questions.*

2. Analyze the relationship between the historical Jesus and the Christ of faith. **[30 marks]**
3. One of the basic tenets of Matthew’s Christology is recorded in the third temptation (Mt 4:8-10). Elaborate on that Christological affirmation. **[30 marks]**
4. The confession of Peter is the turning point or the pivotal point of the gospel.’ Elaborate this assertion in the context of Mark 8:27-30. **[30 marks]**
5. Give a theological interpretation of the expression “You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18). **[30 marks]**
6. Critically evaluate Flavius Josephus’ contribution towards our knowledge of Jesus. **[30 marks]**

END OF PAPER