



*"Investing in Africa's Future"*

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

**NTBS621 THE NEW TESTAMENT AND ETHICS OF ECONOMICS AND  
DEVELOPMENT**

**END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

**NOVEMBER 2021**

**LECTURER: REV. DR. D. BISHAU**

**DURATION: 5 HOURS**

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***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. The utilitarian, deontological and virtue ethics are classical ethical theories which ethicists, economists and development theorists have used to come up with ethical models of economics and development in general.
  - a) Demonstrate your understanding of how any one of the three classical ethical theories compares with New Testament ethics while at the same time considering what New Testament ethics can contribute to an ethical execution of economic development projects. [40]
  - b) Critique the dependency theory of development and explore the considerations you would make in designing your own homegrown ethical model of economics and development that utilizes the three classical ethical theories above, the New Testament and the ethical philosophy of Ubuntu. [60]
2. Historically, international development has been characterised by top-down processes involving international agencies who enter foreign communities aiming to improve the lives of what they consider vulnerable and impoverished people. There is growing attention to bottom-up or grassroots approaches to development that recognize that solutions to local problems should begin from and embrace local community needs, values, skills, and knowledge.
  - a) Attempt a brief but critical exegesis of Luke 22:14-20 and John 8:58 to characterize God's *modus operandi* in matters of a people's development that vindicates the bottom-up approaches to development. [40]
  - b) Critique the grassroots/localism theory of development and explore the considerations you would make in designing your own homegrown ethical model of economic development that utilizes the New Testament, the ethical philosophy of Ubuntu and any other local or indigenous cultural resources you find relevant for the exercise. [60]
3. The Protestant Ethic made the Protestant congregants fertile soil for the development of capitalism. Key elements of the Protestant Ethic, which contributed to this economic development, were a lack of paralyzing asceticism, the refusal to accept state office that led to the development of apolitical, rigorously honest devotees who subscribed to the doctrine of control by conscience.
  - a) With reference to relevant texts of the New Testament, assess the extent to which the New Testament enhances the key tenets of the Protestant Ethic as an ethical theory of economic development. [40]
  - b) Critique Max Weber's Protestant Ethic as a theory of economic development and explore the considerations you would make in designing your own homegrown ethical theory of economic development based on the New Testament ethics and the ethical philosophy of Ubuntu. [60]

**-THE END-**