



**MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS**  
**DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE**  
**2015 Diocesan Exam**  
**Grade 9**

Time : 90 Minutes

Maximum Score : 100 Points

**Section 1 – Multiple Choice. Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement. (25 x 1pt= 25 pts Total)**

1. David the second king of Israel, was anointed by\_\_\_\_\_  
a. Elijah                      b. Elisha                      c. Samuel                      d. Nathan  
**C L8 P4**
2. \_\_\_\_\_ was the one who accompanied Paul on his first missionary journey.  
a. Peter                      b. Paul                      c. Philip                      d. Barnabas  
**D L18 P2**
3. How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can anyone enter a second time into the mother’s womb? Who asked Jesus these questions?  
a. Youth rich man                      b. Samaritan woman  
c. Nicodemus                      d. None of these  
**C L17 P3**
4. In Damascus, God arranged \_\_\_\_\_ to help Saul regain his sight.  
a. Stephen                      b. Gamaliel                      c. Ananias                      d. Barnabas  
**C L16 P4**
5. \_\_\_\_\_ was the son of Amoz, a prophet who prophesied the birth of Jesus.  
a. Jeremiah                      b. Amos                      c. Isaiah                      d. Joel  
**C L15 P3**
6. Abraham was buried in the cave of \_\_\_\_\_ near Mamre that he had purchased to bury his wife.  
a. Machpeleh                      b. Mount Olive                      c. Israel                      d. none of these  
**A L9 P3**
7. Jesus called John and his brother James \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Sons of lightening                      b. Sons of Thunder  
c. Sons of Valley                      d. none of these  
**B L10 P3**
8. “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Who said this?  
a. Philip                      b. Andrew                      c. Paul                      d. Nathanael  
**D L10 P2**

9. Psalm 42 may have been written by \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Deborah                      b. Lydia                      c. Phoebe                      d. Priscilla

**A L3 P2**

10. The Ten Commandments are also referred to as \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Love/Moses                      b. Moses/God                      c. Mosaic/Sinai                      d. Cannan/Sinai

**C L4 P2**

11. What does the name “Jeremiah” mean?

- a. Son of Encouragement                      b. Yahweh Exalts  
c. Sons of Thunder                      d. Sons of Zebedee

**B L11 P2**

12. Who hid the messages of Joshua while they were sent to spy on Jericho?

- a. Esther                      b. Rahab                      c. Hannah                      d. Ruth

**B L13 P2**

13. In Hebrew ‘bara’ means \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. God Listens                      b. God Exalts  
c. to create out of nothing                      d. Father of Nations

**C L1 P2**

14. The song “As a deer panteth” is based on which Psalm?

- a. Psalm 19                      b. Psalm 51                      c. Psalm 23                      d. Psalm 42

**D L3 P2**

15. Which Book of the Bible describes various sacrifices or offerings?

- a. Genesis                      b. Exodus                      c. Leviticus                      d. Numbers

**C L5 P2**

16. To whom did Jesus say this? “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.”

- a. James                      b. Andrew                      c. Simon                      d. John

**C L10 P1**

17. What is the meaning of the name Ishmael?

- a. God Exalts                      b. God Listens                      c. God is Faithful                      d. God is Powerful

**B L7 P2**

18. Who is the prophet God sent to David to make him realize his wrong doings against Uriah?

- a. Saul                      b. Samuel                      c. Jeremiah                      d. Nathan

**D L8 P2**

19. “And just as \_\_\_\_\_ lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must \_\_\_\_\_ be lifted up.”

- a. Joshua/God
- b. Moses/the Son of Man
- c. Moses/Joshua
- d. Jesus/Moses

**B L17 P1**

20. Who was the Levite from Cyprus who sold all his property and gave it to the Apostles?

- a. Barnabas
- b. Sapphira
- c. Ananias
- d. James

**A L18 P1**

21. Which Gospel does not have the story of the Rich man?

- a. Matthew
- b. Mark
- c. Luke
- d. John

**D L20 P2**

22. The well where the Angel of the Lord appeared to Hagar is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Kadesh
- b. Bered
- c. El-roi
- d. Beer-lahai-roi

**D L7 P1**

23. The Book of \_\_\_\_\_ can also be called a “Miniature Bible”.

- a. Matthew
- b. Psalms
- c. Isaiah
- d. Acts

**C L15 P2**

24. Who rebuilt the Jericho fort during the reign to King Ahab and God executed Joshua’s curse upon him?

- a. Ezekiel
- b. Jezebel
- c. Hiel
- d. Joshua

**C L13 P3**

25. The name of prophet Isaiah means \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. God Listens
- b. Yahweh Exalts
- c. The Lord is Salvation
- d. Jehovah is Gracious

**C L15 P2**

**Section 2 – Short Answers. Answer any four (4) of the following questions.**

**Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5pts = 20 pts Total)**

1. The book of Leviticus goes into much detail on worship.  
What are the three specific offerings or sacrifices that God described to Moses?(3 pts)  
Describe two details about burnt offerings. (2 pts)

**L5 P3**

- **Burnt offering (1 pt)**
- **Grain offering (1 pt)**
- **Fellowship offering (1 pt)**
- **Burnt offering: (Any 2 – 1 pt ea)**

- **If anyone brings an offering, it should come from their respective herd or stock.**
  - **The animal must be without blemish.**
  - **God instructs the people that the offering should be an aroma pleasing to Him.**
2. In the story of Jesus and the Rich Man, there are many descriptions for the rich man.  
 How many versions of this story exists? (1 pt)  
 How did the gospel of Luke describe this man? (1 pt)  
 What prevents us from inheriting eternal life? (3 pts)

**L20 P3-4**

- **Three versions of this story exists (in the gospel Mathew, Mark and Luke)**
  - **The gospel of Luke identifies this man as a rich young man and “certain ruler”**
  - **There are 3 obstacles preventing us from inheriting eternal life**
    - **Disobedience to God and his commandments. We are saved by his grace, through faith in Christ, but once saved; we must live out that faith by obeying the commandments to maintain out salvation.**
    - **Temptation of idolizing material wealth and all other values. God must be our chief object of our devotion**
    - **Not giving God the honor that is reserved for Him alone.**
3. David was the second King of Israel and favored by God, but even he disappointed God by falling to temptation.  
 What was David’s sin? (1 pt)  
 What was God’s punishment for David’s sin? (1 pt)  
 How did David repent for his sin? (2 pts)  
 What was God’s response to David repenting? (1 pt)

**(L8 P4)**

- **David was a gifted poet musician, brave soldier, able administrator, good diplomat, and able King chosen by God.**
  - **David’s sin was that he betrayed his soldier Uriah in order to take his wife Bathsheba.**
  - **God punished David by taking the life of his son born of Bathsheba.**
  - **King David repented for his sins by promising a total change by making reparation for his crime. He fasted seven days neither eating nor drinking; he went in an lay all night on the ground and prayed and wept bitterly in spite of being the King over Israel.**
  - **God was pleased and blessed King David and his family with the gift of Solomon.**
4. Sometimes we are tempted to think that God is concerned with our appearances or sometimes we ourselves as concerned with how we appear in front of others.

Who were Annanias and Sapphira? (1 pt)

Explain their dilemma. (3 pts)

What was the consequence of their sin? (1 pt)

### L18 P2-3

- **Ananias and Sapphira were a husband and wife**
  - **They sold a piece of property and wanted to keep a part of the profit earned for themselves. Though it was their choice to sell the property and distribute the money as they felt fit, their sin was lying to the Holy Spirit by telling the apostles that they donated the entire proceeds of the sale instead of just part of the proceeds of the sale of the property.**
  - **For their sin, they paid with their lives.**
5. State and describe any two of the main features of God's covenant to Abraham.

### L9 P5 (2.5 pts ea. For any 2)

- **The Promise of Land: The Lord said to Abram, "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's home, and go to a land that I am going to show you.**
- **The Promise of descendants: God promised Abraham He will make Abraham into a great nation and his name will be great. He also promised his descendants will be as innumerable as stars in the sky.**
- **The Promise of Blessing and Redemption: God promised Abraham that He will bless those who bless Abraham, and the one who curses Abraham will curse; and in him all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**

**Section 3 – Memory Verses. Complete any of five (5) of the following. (5 x 5pts = 25 pts. Total)**

1. But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk, and not faint. - Isaiah 40: 31  
**(L13 P4)**
2. You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wing and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant. You shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine. - Exodus 19:4-5  
**(L5 P6)**
3. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. - Romans 8:38-39  
**(L12 P5)**



- a. Madhbahas                      b. Tableetha                      c. Candles                      d. Altar  
**D MTFV P199**

8. The Sabha Secretary is elected by the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. Diocese                      b. Mandalam                      c. Synod                      d. Episcopa  
**B MTFV P202**

9. As a sign of total submission, our Bishops wear a \_\_\_\_\_ on their head embroidered with twelve crosses.

- a. Cross                      b. Vestments                      c. Kappa                      d. Masnapsa  
**D MTFV P200**

10. \_\_\_\_\_ was the first Indian bishop, consecrated to shoulder the responsibilities of the Church of India.

- a. Abraham Malpan                      b. Joseph Fenn  
c. Mar Thoma I                      d. St. Thomas  
**C MTFV P193**

**Section 5 – Mar Thoma History Short Answer. Answer one of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (1 x 5pts = 5 pts Total)**

1. List 5 prayers/practices that were removed from Thaksa; that did not carry scriptural base.

**MTFV P210**

**1pt each, max 5**

- 1. Removed petitions addressed through the departed saints**
- 2. Removed prayers for the dead**
- 3. Decided to serve bread and wine separately**
- 4. Stopped the practice of private confession with the priest and receiving absolution before the communion**
- 5. Holy Communion will not be celebrated when there is no one to receive communion**
- 6. Holy Communion is for participation and not for worship**

2. Explain the 3 forms of ordained ministry in the Mar Thoma Church.

**MTFV P**

- **Deacon – First ordained position (1 pt)**
- **Priest – ordained to cater to the spiritual needs of members of the church, sacraments of the church, administrative responsibilities of the parish. (2 pts)**
- **Bishop – elected position that needs 75% of the votes and is given a new name “Mar Metropolitan” as the head of the church. (2 pts)**

**Section 6 – Essay. Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in 200 words. (Total 15 points)**

1. "God has a reason for where we are and what we can do."  
Introduction – Tie in the verse to the story of Esther (2 pts)  
Explain why Mordecai reached out to Esther? (3 pts)  
Explain Esther's reaction to Mordecai's request. (5 pts)  
What was the result of Esther's submission? (2 pts)  
Conclusion – 3 pts

**(L14 P3-4)**

- **Esther as queen was enjoying her life in the palace that time a verdict for mass execution of the Jews had been conveyed throughout the kingdom by the King. Mordecai expressed his grief and sorrow at this edict by wearing sack cloth and ashes and wailing bitterly on the streets. When Esther found out about his situation, she sent clothes to him to wear but he refused to accept the clothes. Instead Mordecai sent Esther the edict that Haman promised to pay the King in return for issuing the edict of mass execution of Jews. Mordecai requested Esther to go and plead the King to remove the edict.**
  - **Esther in turn refused to go to Kings Court as no one is allowed to enter the court without an invitation. She was trying to avoid facing the King because she didn't want him to know that she was a Jew. She also feared the law of being put to death for entering the King's courts.**
  - **Mordecai reminded Esther that she should not hide under the protection of the palace and escape the edict. If she hadn't stepped up, God would have delivered his people through other means and she along with her Father's household may not have survived this edict. Esther realized the greater cause of being placed in the palace as Queen at this time for the entire Jewish community and she decided to meet the King and plead for mercy for the Jews.**
  - **Queen Esther prepares to sacrifice her life for the sake of the Jews and God gives her victory over evil as the King is impressed by her and hears her plea.**
2. Explain the spiritual transformation that took place in Saul's life. Your essay should include:
    - a. Describe the stoning of Stephen and the rise of Saul (5 pts)
    - b. Explain God's plan for Saul (5 pts)
    - c. Explain the difference between being religious versus knowing God (5 pts)

**L\_P**

- a. **Saul was a zealous Pharisee. He was a strong follower of Judaism and believed initially that the gospel of Jesus was a major deception. Therefore he went around persecuting the Christians and throwing men and women into prison. Stephen was a follower of Christ. He gave his testimony but Stephen was stoned for his faith. Saul was there giving approval to his death.**

- b. However, God had a plan to use Saul to serve the kingdom of God. Saul was on his way to Damascus when he saw a bright light. A voice spoke out and said “Saul, Saul why are you persecuting me.” Saul realized at that the moment he was persecuting the very same God that he was zealously concerned about. Saul spent three days in prayer. It was a very important moment in Saul’s life. It shows how much God is willing to use people for his glory even if they are the same people that are bringing so much pain to his people. God knew that Saul was misdirected and was truly searching and trying to protect what Saul was the truth. God knew this zeal would be tremendously beneficial for the growth of the kingdom of God.**
- c. The difference between being religious and knowing God is that being religious means that someone is more concerned about following the rules prescribed by that religion. Being religious doesn’t require any effort to know about God. Knowing God means that one is focused on learning about what God wants for their life and doing what it takes to continue to know God more. God took Saul from being just religious to someone who made it the sole purpose in life to know Jesus Christ more and more each day.**