MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS  
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE  
2015 Diocesan Exam  
Grade 7

Time: 90 Minutes     Maximum Score: 100 Points

Section 1 – Multiple Choice. Circle the most appropriate response for the following questions/statements. (30 x 1pt = 30 pts Total)

1. Abram’s name was changed with the promise of the divine covenant to Abraham, which means __________________.
   a. Exalted Father  
   b. Great leader  
   c. Father of the multitude  
   d. Blessed One  
   C (L4 P2)

2. Jeremiah’s ministry lasted for ____________ years.
   a. 30  
   b. 40  
   c. 50  
   d. 60  
   B (L11 P3)

3. What was the name given to Daniel by King Nebuchadnezzar’s chief official?
   a. Hananiah  
   b. Shadrach  
   c. Meshach  
   d. Balteschazzar  
   D (L12 P3)

4. Parakletos is the Greek word used in John 14:16 to refer to this.
   a. Salvation  
   b. Holy Ghost  
   c. Holy Spirit  
   d. Trinity  
   C (L18 P2)

5. The name ______________ comes from Hebrew language which means “God is my Judge”.
   a. David  
   b. Daniel  
   c. Moses  
   d. Elijah  
   B (L5 P2)

6. This concept is derived from the Latin word “imago dei’.
   a. image of God  
   b. glory of God  
   c. grace of God  
   d. light of God  
   A (L1 P3)

7. All of these are different ways to pray EXCEPT.
   a. Benediction  
   b. Supplication  
   c. Confession  
   d. Adoration  
   A (L16 P2)

8. Which of these describes the Garden of Eden?
   a. beautiful trees  
   b. filled with food  
   c. river that branched into four  
   d. all of these  
   D (L2 P2)

9. Isaiah’s prophetic ministry continued during the reigns of the 4 kings of ____________.
   a. Israel  
   b. Jordan  
   c. Judah  
   d. Samaria  

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10. ____________ advised Esther to keep her Jewish identity a secret to prevent her heritage from being counted against her.
   a. Abagail  
   b. Haman  
   c. Mordecai  
   d. King Ahasuerus

11. The story of Jesus cleansing the temple is mentioned in which gospel?
   a. Matthew  
   b. Mark  
   c. John  
   d. all of these

12. Adam and Eve were warned by God that they would die if they ate from the Tree of knowledge. What kind of death is referred to here?
   a. spiritual  
   b. emotional  
   c. physical  
   d. none of these

13. Jesus compares this parable to the kingdom of God.
   a. parable of the lost sheep  
   b. parable of the wedding feast  
   c. parable of the prodigal son  
   d. parable of the talents

14. ____________ was an outstanding example of Jehovah’s warriors.
   a. Jeremiah  
   b. Caleb  
   c. Joshua  
   d. Aaron

15. We can relate Elisha’s commitment to Elijah with that of the loyalty of ____________ to Naomi.
   a. Ruth  
   b. Mary  
   c. Sarah  
   d. Miriam

16. “Ecclesia” is a Greek word that means a group of people called out for a purpose. This is loosely translated in English to mean ____________.
   a. the chosen ones  
   b. church – the body of Christ  
   c. Ecumenical  
   d. temple of God

17. Which commandment did King Ahab break when he coveted Naboth’s vineyard?
   a. 1st  
   b. 2nd  
   c. 3rd  
   d. 10th

18. How old was Caleb when he left Egypt?
   a. 38  
   b. 40  
   c. 42  
   d. 44
19. A ______________ is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. Jesus used these as a means of illustrating profound, divine truths:
   a. Parables   b. Miracles   c. Sermons   d. Fasting
   A (L17 P2)

20. This book of the Bible is a collection of advice, most of which is believed to be written by King Solomon.
   a. Song of Songs   b. Ecclesiastes   c. Proverbs   d. 1 Kings
   C (L14 P3)

21. Gideon’s name means ______________
   a. Let Baal contend against him   b. God overcomes
   c. Mighty Warrior   d. none of these
   C (L8 P5)

22. God appeared to Moses through a burning bush on the Mountain of ___________ to reveal his plan to deliver the people of Israel.
   B (L5 P3)

23. This parable teaches us that we need to think seriously about our eternal life when we are in this world:
   a. Two debtors   b. Prodigal son
   c. vineyard   d. The rich man & Lazarus
   D (L17 P2)

24. This river in the book of Genesis may have been located in North East Arabia and is rich in Gold and Onyx Stone.
   A (L2 P2)

25. God told Jeremiah that He is going to judge and discipline His people for their sin in the vision of ____________.
   a. The almond tree   b. The city
   c. The boiling pot   d. The pillar & wall
   C (L11 P3)

26. What was Elisha doing when Elijah threw his mantle over him?
   a. Plowing in the field with his oxen   b. Talking with the company of prophets
   c. Praying for guidance   d. Sleeping
   A (L15 P3)

27. Where was Isaiah when he had the vision of God seated on a throne with Seraphs in attendance?
   a. Sleeping at home   b. Temple of God
c. Praying d. none of these

B (L10 P2)

28. For how many days did Daniel ask the King’s chief official to give him nothing to eat and drink but vegetables and water?
   a. 7 days b. 8 days c. 9 days d. 10 days

D (L12 P3)

29. Which of these is a promise made in the Abrahamic Covenant?
   a. command not to eat from tree of knowledge   b. blessing for obedience
   c. promise to never destroy earth by flood       d. promise of blessing and redemption

D (L4 P3)

30. Esther asked Mordecai and all the Jews in Susa to fast and pray for ____ days and nights to humble themselves and seek God’s intervention.
    a. 2 days b. 3 days c. 4 days d. 5 days

B (L9 P4)

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. Abraham was a nomad with no children.
   Why did God choose Abraham? (1 pt)
   What are the three main promises in the Abrahamic Covenant? (3 pts)
   Explain why Abraham holds a prominent position in history as the father of the Hebrew nation. (Israel).
   (L4 P3)
   • God chose Abraham because of his unconditional or blind faith.
   • The three main promises in the Abrahamic Covenant are:
     o The promise of land
     o The promise of descendants
     o The promise of blessings and redemption
   • Abraham holds a prominent position in history as the father of the Hebrew nation because of his blind faith in God.

   (L18 P3) Any 5, 1 pt. each
   • The Holy Spirit convicts us of sin, righteousness, and of judgment.
   • The Holy Spirit transforms us in the sight of God.
   • The Holy Spirit helps us understand and remember the word of God.
   • The Holy Spirit helps us lead a godly life.
   • The Holy Spirit is our guarantee of eternal life with God.
   • The Holy Spirit empowers us to be witnesses of Lord Jesus Christ.

3. How was Daniel’s and his three friends’ faith tested when they were being trained to serve in King Nebuchadnezzar’s court? (1 pt)
   How did Daniel respond to his dilemma? (2 pts)
   What happened as a result of this test? (1 pt)
How did God reward Daniel? (1 pt)

(L12 P3)

- As part of the King’s order, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were offered food and wine from the King’s table. Daniel and the other Hebrew men did not want to indulge in the food because the meat served in the palace was considered un-clean by Jewish law.
- Daniel asked for a test for ten days. He asked that they be given nothing to eat and drink but vegetables and water. The test would compare the appearance of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah with other young men who were eating the royal food.
- At the end of ten days, the four men looked healthier and superior in appearance than the men who ate the food given by the palace.
- God blessed the men by giving them knowledge and understanding and Daniel could understand dreams and visions.

4. When Gideon was selecting people to fight against the Midianites, the Lord didn’t want him to win by strength of numbers. How did God choose the individuals who would go to battle against the Midianites? What was Gideon’s plan to defeat the Midianites? What was the result of this plan?

(L8 P6)

- He chose these individuals by a simple test of how they drank their water from a river. Those who lapped the water like a dog with their tongues were selected and those that knelt down to drink the water were sent home. (2 pts)
- Gideon divided his army into three parts; each having jars, lights, and trumpets. Gideon then instructed his team to simultaneously break the jars and blow the trumpets. (2 pts)
- In confusion, the Midianites began to fight against themselves, leading the Israelites to victory. Through the power of God, Gideon’s small army defeated their enemies by using noise and lights to scare the enemy. (1 pt)

5. Who was Esther? (2 pts)
Who was Mordecai? (1 pt)
How did Esther and Mordecai save the King’s life? (2 pts)

(L9 P4)

- Esther was a beautiful Jewish orphan girl who lived in the Persian capital city of Susa. Esther won King Ahasuerus’ beauty pageant competition to replace Queen Vashti and adopted the Persian name Esther when she became Queen.
- Mordecai was a Jew and Esther’s older cousin who raised her. He also saved the King’s life.
- Mordecai overhead an assassination plot against the King during one of his walks and warned Esther, who in turn warned the King. The matter was investigated and the plotters were put to death.

SECTION 3 – Memory Verses: Complete any of five (5) of the following (5 x 5pts = 25 pts. Total)
1) “Do not love \textit{the world or the things in the world}. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world;” – 1 John 2:15 (L3 P6)

2) When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. – John 16:13 (L18 P5)

3) “But my servant Caleb, \textit{because he has a different spirit and has followed me wholeheartedly}, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.” – Numbers 14:24 (L7 P5)

4) But Daniel \textit{resolved that he would not defile himself with the royal rations of food and wine}; so he asked the palace master to allow him \textit{not to defile himself}. – Daniel 1:8 (L12 P5)

5) And the LORD \textit{came and stood forth, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” and Samuel said, “Speak, for thy servant hears.”} – 1 Samuel 3:10 (L9 P4)

6) The fear \textit{of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge}; fools despise wisdom and instruction. – Proverbs 1:7 (L14 P5)

Section 4 – Mar Thoma Church: Our Foundation and Vision. Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement. (10 x 1pt= 10 pts. Total)

1. Public worship consists of all of these \textbf{EXCEPT}
   a. adoration
   b. Holy Communion
   c. confession
   d. Kiss of Peace
   \textbf{B (MTFV P151)}

2. This is the celebration of the relationship between the believer and the almighty.
   a. Liturgy
   b. Eucharist
   c. Taksa
   d. Proclamation
   \textbf{B (MTFV P154)}

3. \textit{Thronos} is an Aramaic word which means \underline{________________________}.
   a. An altar to celebrate the Holy Qurbana
   b. Symbol of divine presence
   c. Vessel for burning incense
   d. Table that serves as an altar
   \textbf{A (MTFV P158)}

4. The Censer is a vessel for burning incense that in Greek Orthodox tradition will have practice bells that are attached to symbolize
a. Intercessory prayer  b. The Holy Trinity

c. The teaching of the twelve Apostles  d. Devotional worship

C (MTFV P159)

5. The Day of Ascension is observed on the _______ day after Easter to commemorate Jesus’ final appearance to his disciples.

a. 10th  b. 20th  c. 30th  d. 40th

D (MTFV P163)

6. St. James Liturgy is largely connected to the gospel of St. ________________


D (MTFV P154)

7. The vestment that the priest wears during the Holy Qurbana is known as the…


C (MTFV P162)

8. We use a cross without the crucifix known as the _________________.

a. Golden Cross  b. Easter Cross  c. Lily Cross  d. none of these

B (MTFV P159)

9. ________________ is a 3-day fast for repentance.

a. The fast for the Apostles  b. The Fast of Nineveh  c. The Great Lent Period  d. The Good Friday fast

B (MTFV P164)

10. The ________________ is a portable table where specially consecrated elements are placed.


C (MTFV P158)

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. What is Lent? (1 pt.)
   Valia-Nombu is the 50-day fast called the Great Lent Period. How many weeks is this broken into? (1 pt)
   Though the first day of Lent is observed on Ash Wednesday, when does the Mar Thoma church observe the first day of lent? (1 pt)
   Describe what the 50 days of lent includes? (2 pts)

(MTFV P162)

- Lent is the period of the manifestation of the Kingdom of God
- Valia-Nombu is divided into 7 weeks
- In the Mar Thoma Church, we begin lent on the Sunday prior to Ash Wednesday.
We include the forty days in which our Lord fasted and 10 days to commemorate the passion of Christ for a total of 50 days of lent.

2. Define Liturgy? (1 pt)
What is the central theme of Eucharistic liturgy? (1 pt)
What pattern of liturgy does the Mar Thoma Church follow? (1 pt)
Which Liturgy does the Mar Thoma Church use in Holy Communion and what gospel is this connected to? (2 pts)

(MTFV P153-154)
- Liturgy is defined as the source and summit of the life of the church and the celebration of the mystery of salvation through signs and symbols.
- Eucharistic liturgy is the celebration of Christ and his unique role of the Redeemer.
- The Mar Thoma Church follows the orthodox pattern of liturgy.
- The Mar Thoma Church uses the St. James liturgy (Taksa) in Holy Communion and it is connected to the gospel of St. John.

Section 6 – Essay (10 points). Choose one of the following two topics to write an essay in approximately 150 words.

1. Introduction: Who was Isaiah? (2 pts)
   Describe Isaiah’s Vision? (3 pts)
   What did the Vision make Isaiah realize? (3 pts)
   What was Isaiah’s mission? (1 pt)

   (L10 P 2 & 3)
   Who was Isaiah? 2 pts
   - Isaiah was a Jewish prophet of the 8th century B.C. The meaning of the word Isaiah is ‘Yahweh is salvation.’

   - Isaiah, the son of Amoz, belonged to a royal family. His prophetic ministry continued during the reigns of 4 kings of Judah.

   What was Isaiah’s Vision? 3 pts
   - Isaiah was in the temple of God when he had the vision.
   - He was God seated on a high throne, with his robe filing the whole temple.
   - Seraphs were in attendance, each with six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two wings they covered their feet and the other two wings were used for flying, ready to do God’s will. They called out to one another and said, “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory.”

   What did the Vision make Isaiah realize? 3 pts
   - Isaiah became aware of his sins and that of his people.
   - He felt his lips were not pure enough to praise God in the presence of the seraphs.
• Isaiah humbled himself before God and his penitence made him worthy to stand in God’s presence.

What was Isaiah’s mission? 2 pts
• Isaiah offered himself in response to God’s call to go and speak to the wicked and stubborn people of Judah about their doom and eventual restoration of a remnant.

2. Who was Jeremiah? 2 points
   Though Jeremiah was timid, explain two of his character traits. 2 pts
   Describe the three promises through visions, that God gives Jeremiah after he’s commissioned as a prophet? 6 pts

L8 P5 & 6
Who was Jeremiah? 2 points
• Jeremiah was a prophet who ministered during the reign of King Josiah. His ministry lasted some 40 years. He was a contemporary of Habakkuk and in his later years of prophetic ministry, Ezekiel.

Though Jeremiah was timid, what were his character traits?
• He was very dedicated to God
• He was a True patriot
• He was fearless
• He was faithful

Describe the three promises through visions, that God gives Jeremiah after he’s commissioned as a prophet?
• The almond tree – The budding of the almond tree announced the coming of spring. Jeremiah would do ministry under some very difficult circumstances. It would not always look as though God is at work. Jeremiah needed to be reassured that God is at work to fulfill His word.
• The boiling pot – The pot was coming out of the north. God is saying to Jeremiah that He is going to judge and discipline His people for their sin. God is not going to continue to look the other way. The main sin that God accuses people of is idolatry.
• The city, a pillar, and a wall – God doesn’t leave Jeremiah to do this ministry alone. God strengthens Jeremiah, so that he can be faithful. God assures him again of his protection and to stand against abuse and persecution.