

**UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL
EXAMINATIONS: NOVEMBER 2010**

**SUBJECT/COURSE/CODE: CRITICAL TOOLS FOR BIBLICAL STUDY/ BIBLICAL
STUDIES 220/BIST220**

DURATION: 3 HOURS

TOTAL MARKS: 100

Internal Examiner: Dr S Nadar, Dr H Efthimiadis-Keith and Mr K Ntuli

External Examiner: Mrs P Bruce

INSTRUCTIONS:

- * Choose a total of **four** questions. **Two** from Section A and **Two** from Section B.
 - * **Write Neatly and Legibly**
 - * **This Paper consists Of 4 Pages**
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SECTION A: OLD TESTAMENT

Answer TWO questions from this section

Question 1

Phylis Tribble has asserted that "To study the Bible as literature is to recognize, not prove, that it is indeed literature". Write an essay in which you outline the principles of a narrative approach to reading the bible. Your essays should include a critical engagement with this approach in relation to other approaches of reading the bible. (25)

Question 2

Adele Berlin states that, while Naomi is the main character of the Book of Ruth from a perceptual point of view, Ruth is its main character from an interest point of view. Write an essay in which you a) clearly explain this difference in your own words, and b) critically compare Berlin's understanding of these two characters according to the work of at least two other biblical scholars. (25)

Question 3

Sarojini Nadar has asserted that there are five key components (the 5C's) to Contextual Bible Study. These 5 components are Community, Context, Criticality, Concientisation and Change. Write an essay in which you critically reflect on how these 5 components fit into the Tamar Campaign. In addition to dialoguing with scholars you must draw on your own practical experience of facilitating a bible study. (25)

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SECTION B: NEW TESTAMENT

Answer TWO questions from this section

Question 4

a) What is Text Criticism and why is it a crucial for the study of the New Testament? What are the two kinds of evidence available to text critics and how are they evaluated?

b) Is it possible to produce a “direct” translation of the Bible? What are the problems facing Bible translators and what different strategies are adopted by them? Indicate your own preference for a translation strategy and give reasons. (25)

Question 5

What is Form Criticism and how useful is it in the study of the Synoptic Gospels? Describe this New Testament methodology. Give a Form Critical analysis of Matthew 8:18-27, showing the different Sitz im Leben (Setting in Life) of the periscope in church and in the life time of Jesus. (25)

Question 6

What is the “Synoptic Problem” and how do most scholars solve the problem today? Discuss the sources lying behind Matthew 16:13-20 (Appendix 1) (25)

Question 7

What is Redaction Criticism and what is it trying to achieve? Give a description of this New Testament methodology. Give a Redaction Critical analysis of Matthew 19:14-22 (Appendix 2) (25)

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Appendix 1

<p>Matthew 16:13-20</p> <p>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he sternly ordered the Disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.</p>	<p>Mark 8:27</p> <p>And Jesus went out, along with His disciples, to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he questioned his disciples, saying to them, "Who do people say that I am?" 28 And they told Him, saying, "John the Baptist; and others say Elijah; but others, one of the prophets". 29 and He continued by questioning them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered and said to Him, "Thou art the Christ."</p>	<p>Luke 9:18</p> <p>And it came about that while He was praying alone, the disciples were with Him, and He questioned them, Saying, "Who do the multitudes say that I Am?" 19 And they answered and said, "John the Baptist, and others say Elijah; but others, that one of the prophets of old has risen again." 20 And He Said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" and Peter answered and said, "The Christ of God."</p>
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Appendix 2

<p>Matthew 19:14-22</p> <p>And he laid his hands on them and went away. And behold, one came up to him, saying, “Teacher, what good deed must I do, to have eternal life?” And he said to him, “Why do you ask me about what is good? There is one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments.” He said to him, “Which?” And Jesus said, “You shall not kill, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honour your Father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” The young man said to him, “All these I have observed; what do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful; for he has great possessions.</p>	<p>Mark 10:14-30</p> <p>Truly, I say to you, “whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them. And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘Do not kill, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honour your father and mother.’” And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth.” And Jesus looking upon him loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” At that saying his countenance fell, and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions</p>
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