



MAR THOMA DIOCESAN SUNDAY SCHOOLS
DIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE
2023 Diocesan Examination-Grade 7

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Time: 90 Minutes

Maximum Score: 100 Points

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

1. Which of these is NOT a promise made in the Abrahamic Covenant. **(L3 P 13)**
 - a. The promise of Land
 - b. The promise of descendants
 - c. The promise of blessings and redemption
 - d. **The promise of kingship**

2. _____ is a Hebrew word that means, "to be set apart for a special purpose" **(L5 P 23)**
 - a. Ecclesia
 - b. **Qadosh**
 - c. Dei
 - d. none of these

3. God told Jeremiah that He is going to judge and discipline His people for their sin in the vision of _____. **(L9 P 46)**
 - a. The almond tree
 - b. The city
 - c. **The boiling pot**
 - d. The pillar & wall

4. For how many days did Daniel ask the King's chief official to give him nothing to eat and drink but vegetables and water? **(L11 P 59)**
 - a. 7 days
 - b. 8 days
 - c. 9 days
 - d. **10 days**

5. _____ did not give King Ahab his vineyard. **(L12 P 65)**
 - a. Thesboth
 - b. Horeb
 - c. **Naboth**
 - d. Tete

6. Jesus compares this parable to the kingdom of God. **(L16 P 85)**
- a. parable of the lost sheep
 - b. parable of the wedding feast**
 - c. parable of the prodigal son
 - d. parable of the talents
7. Jesus told the Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids while he was teaching about _____. **(L20 P 102)**
- a. His crucifixion
 - b. His resurrection
 - c. His Birth
 - d. His second coming**
8. Which of the following is not a characteristic of a person with a humble mind? **(L22 P 109)**
- a. Think of others, not yourself
 - b. Serve others
 - c. Be selfish**
 - d. Glorify God
9. Which of the following are settings where we can evangelize or let people know that we are Christians? **(L25 P 121)**
- a. School setting
 - b. Home
 - c. Community
 - d. All of the above**
10. This Greek word appears 117 times in the Greek New Testament and means "a group of people called out for a purpose." **(L5 P 23)**
- a. Ecclesia**
 - b. Oadosh
 - c. Dei
 - d. none of these
11. The name _____ comes from the Hebrew language which means "God is my Judge". **(L11 P 58)**
- a. David
 - b. Daniel**
 - c. Moses
 - d. Elijah
12. How did Jezebel get Naboth killed? **(L12 P 65)**
- a. Had him stoned to death**
 - b. Poisoned Naboth
 - c. Tied him up
 - d. Crucified Naboth.

13. In the lesson Jesus Walks on Water, who was the disciple who walked on water after Jesus commanded him to? **(L19 P76)**

- a. John
- b. Saul
- c. Moses
- d. Peter**

14. God appeared to Moses through a burning bush on the mountain of _____ and revealed His Divine name. **(L4 P 18)**

- a. Horeb**
- b. Hermon
- c. Hosek
- d. Harif

15. _____ never doubted the sincerity of God's promises and believed that Israel would inherit Canaan. **(L6 P 28)**

- a. Joshua
- b. Caleb**
- c. Aaron
- d. Joseph

16. Who built an altar at Ophrah to the Lord, and called it, The Lord is peace. **(L7 P32)**

- a. Caleb
- b. Gideon**
- c. Isiah
- d. David

17. What was *not* part of the 3 visions that Jeremiah saw? **(L9 P 50)**

- a. City, Pillar & Wall
- b. fig tree**
- c. almond tree
- d. boiling pot

18. In the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus, Lazarus died and was carried away by the angels to be with _____. **(L14 P 75)**

- a. Abraham**
- b. Moses
- c. Peter
- d. Isaiah

19. The Greek word "Parakletos" translates as _____. **(L15 P 80)**

- a. Father
- b. Prophecy**

- c. Parable
- d. **Holy Spirit**

20. _____ is the only story mentioned in all four gospels. (L17 P 89)

- a. Story of Rich man and Lazarus
- b. **Story of Jesus cleansing the temple**
- c. Story of the woman at the well
- d. Story of the Jesus calming the storm

21. _____ advised Esther to keep her Jewish identity a secret to prevent her heritage from being counted against her. (L10 P 53)

- a. Haman
- b. **Mordecai**
- c. King Ahasuerus
- d. Xerxes

22. Which disciple said, “You will never wash my feet?” (L21 P 105)

- a. Andrew
- b. Judas
- c. Thomas
- d. **Peter**

23. Who said to who:” I am who I am” (C L5 P20)

- a) Jesus to Peter
- b) Caleb to Joshua
- c) **God to Moses**
- d) God to Jeremiah

24. Jesus said “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the _____, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.” (L15 P 79)

- a. Friend
- b. Helper
- c. **Advocate**
- d. Fire

25. _____ was directed by an angel in a vision to send men to Joppa to bring back Peter. (L24 P 118)

- a. Philip
- b. Timothy
- c. Paul
- d. **Cornelius**

Section 2 –Short answer questions. Answer any FOUR (4 out of 6) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (4 x 5 = 20 points)

1. Why did King Ahab want to have Naboth's vineyard and how did he get it? (L12)

Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of King Ahab of Samaria. King Ahab wanted the vineyard to make his vegetable garden, and because it was near to his house. Naboth refused to give it to him. King Ahab was depressed and did not eat. His wife, Jezebel, after learning the reason for his being upset, asked mockingly, "Are you not the king?" She then said that she would obtain the vineyard for him. To do so, she sent a letter, under Ahab's name, to the elders and nobles of Naboth's city, instructing them to set Naboth up by proclaiming a feast, seating him in a prominent place and bringing two witnesses, referred to as "scoundrels" by Jezebel, forth to (falsely) accuse Naboth of cursing God and the king. After that, they would take him outside the city and stone him to death. As per Jezebel's plan, the two scoundrels came in and sat opposite him; and the scoundrels brought a charge against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, "Naboth cursed God and the king." So, they took him outside the city, and stoned him to death. Then Ahab took possession of the vineyard.

2. Describe Moses' burning bush experience on mount Horeb?(3 pts) How did God identify himself to Moses? (2 pts) Answer : L4 P18

(a) Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro and he came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the bush. Moses found that the bush was blazing but was not consumed. Then Moses decided to go up and look at what this great sight is. Then God called Moses out of the bush and said "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place you are standing is holy ground.

(b)God said to Moses 'I AM WHO I AM'. God further said, I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Moses hid his face as he was afraid to look at God.

3. What are 5 truths that can be explained by the Kingdom of God? (L16)

- **The kingdom of God is a great treasure.**
- **The Kingdom of God belongs to the children.**
- **Everyone is welcome to the Kingdom of God.**
- **The Kingdom of God is a just society where God rewards everyone according to His mercy.**
- **The Kingdom of God is like yeast or a small seed.**
- **The Kingdom of God is of the past, present and future.**

4. Who is the Holy Spirit? (1 pt) How does it help us live a blessed Christian life? (2 pts) List any TWO manifestations of the Holy Spirit. (2 points) (L15)

The Holy Spirit is God and the third person of the Trinity.

The Holy Spirit helps us live a blessed life by convicting us of sin, righteousness, and of judgment. It transforms us in the sight of God and helps us to lead a godly life. It also helps us understand and remember the word of God. The Holy Spirit is our guarantee of eternal life with God. It lives in us

and empowers us to be witnesses for our Lord Jesus Christ.

The manifestations of the Holy Spirit are speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, prophesy, words of wisdom, words of knowledge, discernment of spirits, faith, working of miracles and gifts of healing. (student may list any two manifestations)

5. Why was Jesus angry with the merchants and money changers in the temple? (2 pts) What did Jesus do to the merchants and money changers? (1 pts) Why were the Pharisees upset with Jesus? (2 pts) **(L17)**

Jesus was angry with the merchants and money changers because they had misused the temple and made it into a marketplace. Instead of maintaining the sanctity of the temple as a place of worship, they had made it a place of extortion and a barrier to the Gentiles who wanted to come and worship God.

Jesus overturned the tables and seats of the merchants and money changers and chased them out of the temple.

The Pharisees were upset with Jesus because he claimed to rebuild the temple in a mere three days. They failed to realize that Jesus was talking about his resurrection in three days.

6. When the angel appeared to Gideon and instructed him that he was to lead the Israelites to victory against their oppressors, Gideon was not convinced that he was the chosen one and needed more assurance. So, he asked the angel to show him signs that the angel was truly sent by God. State and describe each sign. 5 points **(L7)**

Gideon asked the angel for two signs:

1. Sign of Fire:

As Gideon prepared an offering of meat and bread for his guest, the angel touched the offering with the end of the stick he was holding and fire came out of the rock and burnt the meat and bread. Gideon was now convinced that it was indeed God's calling.

2. Sign of wool fleece:

Gideon laid a wool fleece on the threshing floor and asked God to make the fleece wet and the floor dry. The angel did as Gideon asked. Then Gideon asked the angel to make the fleece dry and the floor wet and the angel did what Gideon asked.

Section 3 - Memory verses.

Complete any FIVE (5 out of 7) of the following memory verses as recorded in NRSV Version (5 x 5 = 25 points)

1. So, God created humankind in His image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them. **Genesis 1:27 (L1)**

2. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea. **Psalms 46:1-2 (L4)**

3. Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you, I appointed you a prophet to the nations. **Jeremiah 1 :5 (L9)**

4. 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 (L15)**

5. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. **Matthew 6:33 (L16)**

6. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look to not your own interests, but to the interests of others.
Philippians 2:2-4 (Lesson 22)

7. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. **Matthew 28:19-20 (L25)**

Section 4 – Mar Thoma Church: Our Foundation and Vision Multiple Choice questions.

Circle the most appropriate response for the following question/statement. (10 x 1 pt= 10 pts)

1. Public worship consists of all of these EXCEPT

- a. Adoration
- b. **Holy Communion**
- c. Confession
- d. Kiss of Peace

b (MTFV P151)

2. The word Liturgy means _____

- a. Worship
- b. Adoration
- c. Offering
- d. **Service**

d (MTFV P154)

3. St. James Liturgy is largely connected to the gospel of St. _____

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

d (MTFV P154)

4. The Nicene Creed is the only creed that is _____ and _____. (C P166)

- a) Liturgical and universal
- b) Ecumenical and methodical
- c) Ecumenical and universal**
- d) Liturgical and ecumenical

5. 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)

6. The vestment that the priest wears during the Holy Qurbana is known as the _____.

- a. Haikala
- b. Sobha
- c. Kappa**
- d. Taksā

c (MTFV P162)

7. What day marks the beginning of Christianity? (D P163)

- a) Epiphany
- b) Easter
- c) The Day of Ascension
- d) The Day of Pentecost**

8. The _____ is a portable table where specially consecrated elements are placed. a. Madbaha

- b. Thronos
- c. Tabaleetha**
- d. Haikala

c (MTFV P158)

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. Thronos is an Aramaic word which means _____ **Give one point all**

- 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

a (MTFV P158)

Section 5 – Mar Thoma History Short answer question. Answer any ONE (1 out of 3) of the following questions. Answers should be brief and to the point. (5 x 1 = 5 Points)

1. What is Lent? (1 pt.) Valia-Nombu is the 50-day fast which is called the Great Lent Period. How many weeks is this broken into? (1 pt) The first Wednesday of Lent is known as Ash Wednesday according to the Western Calendar. In the Mar Thoma church when do we begin the 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. What are the five symbols associated with the MarThoma Worship Order? Briefly describe each of them. (MTFV P158-59) 1 pt. each

- 1. Madbaha - an altar to celebrate the Qurbana**
- 2. Light - calls us to shine light the light in a world of darkness**
- 3. Incense and Censer - an offering. The smoke from the incense is a symbol of the divine presence. The cloud and incense stand for the invisible presence of the Lord. Three chains on censer stand for the Holy Trinity. The bells attached to the chains symbolizes the teachings of the twelve Apostles. 4. Cross - symbolizes eternal life granted to humanity through Christ's sacrificial act. It symbolizes light, peace, and the new life received through Christ.**
- 5. Kappa - vestment that the priest wears during Holy Qurbana and other sacraments. They are made "for glory and beauty".**

3. What are the 5 faith proclamations (We believe (or acknowledge)) in the Nicene Creed? (MTFV P167-168) (5 pts)

We believe in one true God, the father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life

We believe in one, Holy, Catholic and apostolic church

We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins and look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the new life of the world to come

SECTION 6 - Essay question. Choose ONE of the following two topics to write an essay in approximately 150-250 words. (1x10 pts=10 pts).

1. From the story of Daniel in a foreign land, we learn that we are God's children in every experience of our lives. Based on this story, answer the below questions:

- a. Who were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah? (2pts)
- b. What was the difficult situation they had to deal with while they were captives in a foreign land? (2pts)
- c. How strong was their faith and obedience to their religious practices and why did they decide to defy the King's order? (4pts)
- d. How did God bless them for standing up for their faith? (2pts) **(L11)**

a. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were four noble, handsome young Hebrew men from the royal family who were taken as captives by King Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon. They were selected to serve in the Royal palace because they had no physical defect, were well versed in every branch of wisdom and were endowed with knowledge and insight and were competent to serve in the king's palace.

b. First of all, their Hebrew names were changed to Babylonian names. Then they were offered food and wine from the King's table which was not prepared according to Jewish religious practice. So, they did not want to defile themselves by indulging in the Royal food and wine. c. They asked the Palace master permission not to eat the Royal food and instead test them with vegetables and water for 10 days. Although refusing to follow the King's order meant death, they decided to remain steadfast in their faith and religious practices rather than polluting their bodies with food that was not prepared according to Jewish Law as described in Leviticus 7:12 d. After the 10 days test period, they were compared to the other young men who ate from the Kings' table but Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were found healthier and superior in appearance than the men who ate the royal food. God blessed the men by giving them knowledge and understanding and Daniel could understand dreams and visions. When the king talked to them, he found none equal to them and they were stationed in the King's court. They were found to be 10 times better in wisdom and intelligence than all the enchanters and magicians in the whole kingdom

2. Write about the following incidents that we learn from Acts 10?

- a. Cornelius's vision (2pt)
- b. Peter's Vision (3)
- c. What did Peter do after the vision? (2)
- d. What was Peter's message to the Gentiles and what happened there? (3)

Answer : (L24)

a. One afternoon Cornelius had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius." He stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" He answered, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside."

b. Peter went up on the roof to pray, he fell into a trance. He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up,

Peter; kill and eat.” But Peter said, “By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean.” The voice said to him again, a second time, “What God has made clean, you must not call profane.” This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven. c. Peter met the three men sent by Cornelius, he invited them in and gave them lodging. The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the believers from Joppa accompanied him to Caesarea.

d. On Peter’s arrival Cornelius met him, and falling at his feet, worshiped him. But Peter made him get up, saying, “Stand up; I am only a mortal.” And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled; and he said to them, “You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit a Gentile; but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation, anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.