



**PAN AFRICA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF ARTS IN BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGY
January to April 2021**

CAMPUS: ROYSAMBU

DEPARTMENT: BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

COURSE CODE: MDV 604/MBT 505

COURSE TITLE: The Social World of the Bible

EXAM DATE: MONDAY

TIME: 5.30PM-8.30PM

INSTRUCTIONS

- ☐ **Read the questions carefully before you write the answers.**
- ☐ **This paper has Five questions**
- ☐ **Answer question one and any other two questions in Section B.**

Section A: Answer ALL questions(20 marks)

1. Ethnicity is entrenched in the history of ancient Israel.
 - a) Discuss five ethnic identifiers and boundary markers of early Israel. (10 marks).
 - b) Discuss Apostle Paul's view of Gentiles kinship with Israel based on shared spirit and provide two Bible passages in support of your response. (6 marks)
 - c) Explain God's plan of all ethnic groups and give two Bible passages to support your answer. (4 marks)

Section B: Answer ANY TWO questions (20 marks)

2. In order to marry a girl, a man would give her father a mohar 'gift' that would seal the betrothal between the bride and husband-to-be in ancient Israel.
 - a) Discuss three ways mohar was paid to the father and family. (6 marks)
 - b) Explain if mohar practiced in ancient Israel can be compared to bride price in African context. Provide two clear comparisons. (4 marks).
3. Archaeology has a place in reconstructing the social life underlying the biblical documents.
 - a) Discuss three ways archaeology research has provided 'indirect' evidence to the claims made in the Bible. (6 marks)
 - b) Explain if archeological discoveries can "prove the truth of the Bible". (4 marks).
4. The covenant of circumcision given to Abraham has been interpreted both literary and symbolically.
 - a) Discuss three symbolic uses of circumcision and uncircumcision in the Bible and provide biblical references to support your answers. (6 marks)
 - b) According to Apostle Paul, explain the significance of circumcision and uncircumcision to Christians today. (4 marks)
5. The social-historical context is important to understand the Bible and to help interpret it:
 - a) Examine three key elements of studying the Bible in its social-historical context. (6 marks)
 - b) Explain how knowing social-historical context can help in the interpretation and application of the Bible in African context. (4 marks)