

XI ANNUAL CATHOLIC KNOWLEDGE BOWL

QUESTIONS ON THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT

By Sr. Marian Sturm, IWBS, Incarnate Word Convent, Victoria, TX

1. The 4 traditions, Yahwist, Elohist, Deuteronomistic and Priestly, are _____.
- a. stories and legends provided for the earliest history of Israel
 - b. found in the neighboring pagan cultures
 - c. found only in the book of Genesis
 - d. found in the New Testament

Answer A: “Independent stories, cult narratives, primitive songs oracles, etymological explanations and legends all provided material for the earliest history of Israel.” **Introduction to the Pentateuch**, Eugene H Maly, p. 3 (13) “The Four Traditions”, **THE JEROME BIBLICAL COMMENTARY** © 1968, Prentice-Hall.

2. The story of creation is found in the book of _____.
- a. Exodus 1 – 2:4
 - b. Genesis 1- 2:4
 - c. Genesis 2:4 – 24
 - d. Genesis 1 & 2

Answer D: “The scope of Genesis 1:1-2:4 contains an entire portrait of the nature of Yahweh,..... God’s magnificent creation of the world in Genesis 1 set the stage for his intimate concern with man and woman in Genesis 2.” **Reading the Old Testament**, Lawrence Boadt, Paulist Press, pp. 114 – 119.

3. The escape of the Hebrews from Egypt is found in the book of _____.
- a. Genesis
 - b. Leviticus
 - c. Exodus
 - d. 1 & 2 Kings

Answer C: “The second book of the Pentateuch is called Exodus from the Greek word for ‘departure’ because the central event narrated in it is the departure of the Israelites from Egypt....It recounts the oppression by the Egyptians ...and their miraculous deliverance by God through Moses,” **Introduction to The Book of Exodus**, **THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE**, St. Joseph Edition, p. 59

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4. The Old Testament books that contain much history, laws and genealogies are _____.

- a. Leviticus and Numbers
- b. Genesis and Exodus
- c. Joshua and Judges
- d. Maccabees 1 & 2

Answer A: "...a good part of this book (Leviticus) consists of sacrificial and other ritual laws prescribed for the priests of the tribe of Levi. ... Leviticus is almost entirely legislative in character. **Introduction to The Book of Leviticus, THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE**, St. Joseph Edition, p. 100 The book of Numbers derives its name from the account of the two censuses of the Hebrew people taken... in the desert. Numerous legal ordinances are interspersed in the account, making the book a combination of law and history." **Introduction to The Book of Numbers, THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE**, St. Joseph Edition, p. 131.

5. Rather than setting down an accurate record of Israel's history, the "historical books" of the Old Testament _____.

- a. record the Israelites' experience of God's action in their lives.
- b. glorify God who freed them from slavery.
- c. make the point that God is constantly working with them.
- d. all the above

Answer D: "...none of these books are history as we understand it today. These books record the Israelites' experience of God's action in their life, reflected on and written down hundreds of years later. ...the purpose of these writings was not to set down an accurate record of Israel's history but to glorify God, whom they experienced as freeing them from slavery and leading them to a new land." **The Great Themes of Scripture: Old Testament**, Richard Rohr and Joseph Martos, © 1968, p. 15

6. The Pentateuch, the Historical Books, the Wisdom Writings, and the Prophets are the 4 divisions found in _____.

- a. the Jewish Canon of Scripture
- b. the Christian Bible
- c. the Torah
- d. the Jewish Tanak

Answer B: "Christian Bibles have made four divisions by adding a category for the historical books separate from the prophets. Its four divisions are (1) the Pentateuch (Greek for 'five books'), (2) the Historical Books, (3) the Wisdom

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Writings, and (4) the Prophets.” Reading the Old Testament, Lawrence Boadt, Paulist Press, p. 16.

7. Models of fidelity to God to be imitated are shown in the books of _____.

- a. Ruth, Judith, Esther, and Tobias
- b. Joshua and Judges
- c. Samuel, Kings, Chronicles and Ezra
- d. Nehemiah and Maccabees

Answer A: “The books of Ruth, Tobias, Judith and Esther give us additional stories of Jewish heroes and heroines. ...it was their fidelity, their faithfulness to the God whom they experienced in their lives. Because the Israelites knew that God was faithful, fidelity was an important virtue to them and so they respected and emulated faithful men and women.” **The Great Themes of Scripture: Old Testament**, Richard Rohr and Joseph Martos, © 1968, p. 15.

8. Some “Wisdom books” which reflect on life’s problems, universal truth, the rules for life and the nature of created reality before God are _____.

- a. Genesis, Exodus and Deuteronomy
- b. Job, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, and Proverbs
- c. Wisdom, Ezra and Nehemiah
- d. All of the above

Answer B. “...a few books can be specifically labeled ‘wisdom’ because they maintain a consistent focus on life’s problems, the quest for universal truth, the rules for life, and the nature of created reality before God. These books are: Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Ecclesiasticus, Wisdom of Solomon.” Reading the Old Testament, Lawrence Boadt, Paulist Press, p. 473.

9. _____ is a dramatic short story of a person hearing the Word of God and gradually being drawn into the mystery of God.

- a. Sirach
- b. Job
- c. Exodus
- d. Isaiah

Answer B: “The author ... move(d) beyond simple acceptance of God’s will to ask hard questions the book explores ... how one who is faithful ever comes to know God or understand his or her relationship with God. Most of Job’s long speeches are concerned with ... desire for a “right” relationship with God based on justice and mutual terms. ... the harsh reply of God destroys this hope—no one relates to God on a basis of justice or equal rights. God gives himself by

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means of his law and the revelation that we are to obey. ...no one can find the way to wisdom; only God knows it and he has given it to humans through reverent worship.” **Reading The Old Testament**, Lawrence Boadt, Paulist Press, pp 482-83.

10. 150 religious songs of the Hebrew people used as prayer for Christians today is the book of _____.

- a. Proverbs
- b. Song of Songs
- c. Psalms
- d. Lamentations

Answer C: “The Book of Psalms, or Psalter, is a collection of religious songs, traditionally listed as 150.” **Introduction to the Book of Psalms, THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE**, Saint Joseph Edition, p. 603

11. The book of _____ shows how we experience God during negative moments in our lives.

- a. Proverbs
- b. Psalms
- c. Hosea
- d. Ecclesiastes

Answer D: “No one has ever challenged the Book of Ecclesiastes’ right to the title of the most skeptical book in the Bible. Ecclesiastes...has a unified approach to the value of wisdom: pessimism. ...Ecclesiastes has its doubts whether ... confidence has any basis in human experience. In the end, Ecclesiastes’ message is one with that of Job—trust and surrender yourself to God’s loving care even if you cannot know where it will lead.” **Reading The Old Testament**, Lawrence Boadt, Paulist Press, pp 483-85.

12. The main theme which runs through Matthew’s gospel is _____.

- a. Jesus’ compassion
- b. Jesus as prophet
- c. “the reign of God”
- d. all 3 above

Answer C: “Jesus is the Messiah but not the king Messiah of popular expectation. ... He is the lowly Messiah a friend of the poor because he is one of them. ... He has no political message. The reign comes with Jesus, but it is not a reign of the king Messiah over a Jewish world empire. The reign is accomplished by free submission to the sovereign will of God....The reign of God

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in Mt is clearly identified with the community of the disciples, a community that is identified with Jesus himself. ...The reign of God is fulfilled only in an eschatological event. ...The eschatological event begins with the Church.” **The Gospel According to Matthew, THE JEROME BIBLICAL COMMENTARY**, Prentice-Hall, p. 64.

13. The shortest and possibly the first Gospel to have been written is _____.

- a. the Gospel of Matthew
- b. the Gospel of Mark
- c. the Gospel of Luke
- d. the Gospel of John

Answer-B: “This shortest of all New Testament gospels is likely the first to have been written, yet it often tells of Jesus’ ministry in more detail than either Matthew or Luke....”, **Introduction, The Gospel According to Mark, THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE**, St. Joseph Edition, © 1970, p. 67.

14. Mark begins his gospel with the public life of Jesus stressing that _____.

- a. the reign of God is now.
- b. salvation is now.
- c. salvation is at our baptism
- d. a & b

Answer-D: “Mark stresses Jesus’ message about the kingdom of God now breaking into human life as good news and Jesus himself as the gospel of God. Jesus is the Son whom God has sent to rescue humanity by serving and by sacrificing his life.” **Introduction, The Gospel According to Mark, THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE**, St. Joseph Edition, © 1970, p. 67.

15. In Mark’s gospel, Jesus emphasizes that salvation comes through _____.

- a. personal prayer
- b. suffering
- c. worship
- d. good intentions

Answer –B: “They (readers in Mark 13: 9-13) must expect to suffer for Jesus’ sake at the hands of all the political authorities in the world: synagogue officials...This suffering is linked with the preaching of the gospel throughout the world.” **Reading the New Testament**, 2nd Edition, PHEME PERKINS, © 1988, p. 204.

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16. Luke's gospel does not speak of God's kingdom but rather emphasizes ____.

- a. the privileged position of the poor
- b. temptation
- c. the end times
- d. getting what we deserve.

Answer –A: "...Luke ...shifts the early Christian emphasis away from the expectation of an imminent Parousia to the day-to-day concerns of the Christian community in the world. ...he is more concerned with presenting the words and deeds of Jesus as guides for the conduct of Christian disciples...Luke calls upon the Christian disciple to identify with the master Jesus, who is caring and tender toward the poor and lowly, the outcast, the sinner, and the afflicted..."

Introduction, The Gospel According to Luke, THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE, St. Joseph Edition, © 1970, p. 95.

17. In his gospel, Luke has Jesus constantly going toward Jerusalem to _____.

- a. pray in the temple
- b. confront the synagogue leaders
- c. fulfill a divine plan of being taken up to heaven
- d. receive the Holy Spirit

Answer-C: "Jesus turns toward Jerusalem to fulfill a divine plan by which he will be "taken up" (to heaven) from Jerusalem." **Reading the New Testament**, 2nd Edition, PHEME PERKINS, ©1988, p. 230.

18. Luke divides Jesus' ministry into his _____, his journey to Jerusalem and his ministry in Jerusalem.

- a. Baptism ministry
- b. ministry of miracles
- c. ministry of instruction
- d. ministry in Galilea

Answer- D: "Luke divides the ministry of Jesus in three sections: (a) Galilean ministry (4:14-9:50); (b) journey to Jerusalem (9:51-19:27); (c) ministry in Jerusalem (19:28-21:38)." **Reading the New Testament**, 2nd Edition, PHEME PERKINS, (c) 1988, p. 230.

19. The purpose of John's gospel is similar to Mark's in that he is concerned with _____.

- a. entering into divine life.
- b. making a personal act of faith in Jesus.

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- c. both a & b
- d. preserving the words and deeds of Jesus as they happened.

Answer –C: “But these are written that you may (come to) believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.” **John 20:31, THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE**, St. Joseph Edition, © 1970 p. 21

20. The Acts of the Apostles is a story of God’s providence _____.
- a. bringing into being the Church and traditions
 - b. showing what it means to be a follower of Jesus
 - c. shown in a collection of events of the past
 - d. both a & b

Answer –D: “Acts is not ‘church history’ in the way we think of history: a collection of events that happened to Christians in the past. Rather Acts is the story of how God’s providence worked through such famous apostles...to bring into being the church and traditions which Luke and his readers have inherited. ...Luke teaches us to look back to the story of the earliest community for a vision of what it means to be followers of Jesus.” **Reading the New Testament**, 2nd Edition, PHEME PERKINS, © 1988, p. 268.

21. In the book of Revelation, the clear, consistent message to the churches of the time was _____.
- a. the danger of accommodating to the structures of the culture of the time.
 - b. that there is no “middle ground” in this situation
 - c. people will blaspheme God rather than repent
 - d. all three above

Answer –D: “...this visionary prophet has a clear and consistent message to the churches of his time and region. He sees the danger that Christians...will be led to accommodate to the structures of the culture ... The dramatic imagery of the beast warring against the offspring of the heavenly Israel makes it clear ... that there is no “middle ground” in this situation. For humanity ... the prophet predicts that no matter how dramatic or severe the divine signs are, people will blaspheme God rather than repent (e.g. 16:8-11).” **Reading the New Testament**, 2nd Edition, PHEME PERKINS, © 1988, p. 327.