

Alliance Theological Seminary
Old Testament Theology
OT 610.NA
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Old Testament Theology Final Examination

Part One: Provide definitions for the following terms.

1. Transcendence:- Theologically, the notion of God's "otherness," his distinctness and uniqueness from the created order, his mysterious and unknowable nature (cf. Isa. 57:15^a).

2. Immanence:- God's active presence and providential involvement in his creation.

3. Protoevangelium:- Protoevangelium is a compound word of two Greek words, protos meaning "first" and evangelion meaning "good news" or "gospel".
In Christian theology, the protoevangelium (also known as the protevangelium, protoevangelium or protoevangelion) is God's statement to the Serpent in the Garden of Eden about how the seed of the woman would crush the serpent's head: "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15, KJV) "I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: she shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for her heel."

4. Monotheism:- The belief that there is only one God who is the proper object of worship and besides him no other gods exists.

5. Monolatry:- The worship of one God, but without the claim that there are no others.

6. Inscrutability:- Incapable of being investigated, analyzed, or scrutinized; impenetrable. Not easily understood; mysterious or unfathomable.

7. Theodicy:- The philosophical and/or theological defense of God's goodness and omnipotence in view of the existence of evil.

8. Nabi:- Is a prophet.

9. Decalogue : - The Ten commandements.

1. Remnant:- After the destruction of the Northern Kingdom , the people of Judah may have felt they were the remnant, especially when they compared what was left of the nation with the extensive kingdom David had ruled over.
1. Shearjashub:- A remnant will return (i.e., to God), a symbolical name which the prophet Isaiah gave to his son (Isaiah 7:3), perhaps his eldest son.
1. Eschatology:- The branch of theology concerned with end-time events (i.e., the doctrine of last things).
1. Day of the Lord:-Is an expression, often in the context of future events, which refers to the time when God will intervene decisively for judgment and salvation.
1. Zion Tradition:- The temple was also associated with the Davidic dynasty (e.g., 2 Chr. 6:5-6) and with Zion tradition, which depicts Zion (which came to represent the whole city of Jerusalem) as God's throne and so, also, a symbol of Israel's election.
1. Servant of the Lord:- Servant of the Lord God's servants were those who worshiped him and carried out his will (prophets), often in important leadership role. Sometimes identified with the Messiah – Jesus in the NT, is also anointed with the Spirit, both for the kingly role of establishing justice (Isa. 42:1) and for the prophetic role of proclaiming God's word (Isa.61:1; cf. Luke 4:18). Israel is identified as the Servant of the Lord.

Essay Questions

Part Two: Answer any 2 the following questions (100 words minimum).

1. Discuss the theology of God and creation as found in the book of Genesis (Merrill). What does Genesis tell one about God? What does Genesis tell one about creation?

2. Discuss the Theology of the Psalms. What are the major themes listed by Merrill?
Which do you think is the major theme of the Psalms? Why?

The Psalms of the Bible can be classified into three general categories, praise, lament and wisdom.

The Psalms speak often of a desire to be in God's presence in the temple and of the delight to be found in the law that provides a guideline for being in relationship with God.

The book testifies of God's presence with individuals in crisis and with his people in troubled times. God is praised for his presence with his people.

The Psalms play an important role in the life of Christ. It shows King David as a man of Prayer and institutionalizes prayer with the input to worship.

Merrill instructs us that the major theological ideas of Psalms revolve, first around the concept of the Lord's present sovereignty, its exercise in a messianic ruler yet to come, and the role of Zion as the locus of his kingdom. This is the divine aspect.

Secondly, the great complex of themes has to do with human lives in both its practical outworking's and the special meaning for those who know God and find the truth and importance in the relationship.

Other themes are the Retribution Principle which can be summed up in two two-part affirmations. The first is – The righteous will prosper and the wicked will suffer and secondly those who prosper are righteous, while those who suffer are wicked. Then there is Nature and Creation where several psalms focus on God's relationship to nature. This is of importance because Israel was an agricultural community meaning that the people were very much dependent on the climate, rain and sun for their crops and animals for their living.

The theme of Kingship is most important to me because of King David. He was the greatest king and a “man of God’s own heart”. There are practically nine psalms throughout the psalter that specifically concern the king, 2, 18, 21, 45, 72, 89, 110, 132 and 144. Out of these four are attributed to King David 18, 21, 110 and 144 and three are with editorial functions, 2, 72 and 89. These are messianic psalms and for the continuum that prevails from King David through his dynasty to the ideal Davidic king – Messiah. Psalm 2 shows the affirmation of the Lord’s choice and protection of the king. Psalm 18 praises God for his deliverance of the king over his enemies. These psalms ask for deliverance, victory, or blessings for the king. God has promised victorious kingship to the kings who trust in him and he is more than able to do it. This relates to the future ideal king for he will exercise perfect trust and would enjoy all the blessings of God on his reign.

3. Select one of the Post-exilic prophets of the Old Testament(Merrill, 17). What are the major themes of the book?

The book of Daniel professes to a setting the 6th century Babylonia under the rule of Nebuchadnezzar (605-562 BC). Those that followed were the likes of Belshazzar (562-539) and then followed by the rulers of Persian dominion, Cyrus the Great and Darius the Mede. The prophet Daniel was a man of prayer and he was gifted to interpret dreams and vision. He interpreted the dreams of king Nebuchadnezzar the great and saw the king brought down to nothing as an animal in the jungle because he failed to recognize that the true and living God is God.

Themes of Daniel:

The major theme of Daniel is the conflict between the kingdom of God and the kingdoms of the world as epitomized by Babylonia and Persia. Daniel's gift of dreams and visions and the interpretations of those of others especially kings came into full swing and use. The kingdom of God the climax of God's agenda for Israel and the world is communicated vividly in Daniel. This idea is introduced to us in chapter 2 as a kingdom that will never be destroyed (2:44) though God already rules an everlasting kingdom. The idea of the "son of man" to whom the kingdom of God was given and we see that was recognized as a messianic figure in the person of Jesus.

On the other hand, the kingdoms of the nations are seen as temporary and exercising limited dominion. The Babylonian kingdom is depicted in chapters 4-, the Medo-Persian and Greek kingdoms are vividly in chapter 8. The four-kingdom scheme that are presented in chapters 2 and 7 is a common motif in the literature of the time and afterward. The four kingdoms are not identified in the book though Nebuchadnezzar is identified in the first kingdom. The pertinent facts of the context of the book are, the contrast between human empires and the kingdom of God and the latter is coming and will be everlasting.

The sovereignty of God is prominent theme in Daniel and certainly a heavenly kingdom. Daniel informed Nebuchadnezzar that after the kingdoms of this world had run their course, "the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed". Then the Lord will establish in place God's own perfect rule. He will then put in places of responsibility his special people, "the holy ones of the Most High" (7:27). They would be entrusted with "the kingdom, dominion,

and greatness of the kingdoms under all of heaven.” The initial command in the beginning (Gen. 1:28) to be ”fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it” would come to fruition.

Pride and Rebellion:

The pride of kings that leads to their eventual downfall is visible as with Nebuchadnezzar with his golden image and his pride that he built the great Babylon. Belshazzar’s pride was shown in using the utensils from the temple. The book of Daniel reminds the people that their troubles would not be over when they returned from exile. Though judgment for the sins of the pre-exilic generations had been completed in full the Israelites had still not reached the spiritual plateau that God wanted them to achieve.

Part Three: Provide the correct answer. (All must answer)

Merrill

1. In the Old Testament before the choice of Jerusalem, there was only one other place of worship.
True () ; False (**X**)
2. The Tabernacle planned and prepared by David, was built by Solomon.
True (**X**) ; False ()
3. According to Merrill, the book of Exodus is a context of sovereignties, the god of Pharaoh and the God of Moses.
True (**X**) ; False ()
4. According to the Ancient Near East, the _Pharaoh _

5. was viewed as divine. This was not the view of Israel and the Old Testament.

5. The following passage is a corrective for the abuse of royal power:

- a. () John 3:16
- b. () 2 Samuel 7
- c. () Deuteronomy 17:14:20
- i. (**X**) B and C
- e. () None of the above

6. The covenant with David is in continuation of a promise made to Abraham.

True (**X**); False ()

7. Israel/Old Testament History exhibits the Lord's enforcement of His covenant in history.

8. The idea of the remnant deals with the following:

- a. () God's justice and mercy
- b. () Survival of the fittest
- c. () The Lord's purposes in history.
- d. (**X**) A and C
- e. () None of the above.

9. One of the ways that YHWH exhibits His sovereignty and the idea of universalism is by oracles against foreign nations.

True (**X**); False ()

1. List 3 themes found in the Psalter.

- 1. Retribution Principle
- 2. Kingship
- 3. Sovereignty

Routledge: Old Testament Theology

11. According the Routledge, the usual for prophet is: A mediator – bringing direct communication from God to the people and intercede for the people.

12. In the Ancient Near East, Mesopotamia and EGYPT are two foreign nations that wisdom motifs.

13. Deuteronomistic history is so called because the biblical writers appear to interpret the events that lead to the defeat and exile of Israel in 721 BCE and of Judah in 586 BCE.

True () ; False ()

14. According to Routledge, Genesis 50:20 is one several passages of the Old Testament that exhibits God's providence.

True () ; False ()

15. Israel's confidence in the idea of providence was based upon her experience with God, especially in the ___Exodus___.

- a. () Exodus
- b. () Exile
- c. () Abraham's promise
- d. () Covenant

16. Israel's witness to the nations is exhibited in the following manner:

- a. () By showing the reality of God's presence in their community.
- b. () By the Exodus
- c. () Members of the believing will go out to other nations
- d. () By the revelation of Yahweh.
- e. () A and C.

17. Deuteronomy 28-32 helped to prove whether a prophet was true or false.

True () ; False () – Blessings and curses.

18. The key role of the prophets was:

- a. () To speak for Yahweh
- b. () To call the nation back to Yahweh
- c. () To address issues social justice issues.
- d. () A and B
- e. () A and C

19. The theological shape of ethics involves Israel, God and the ___**World**___.

20. The true basis of ethical behavior in the Old Testament is the nature and character of God Himself.

True () ; False ()