

$$\frac{35}{35} + \frac{45}{45} = \frac{80}{80}$$

EXAMINATION #1  
Spring 1979

A

PART I: IDENTIFICATION

BRIEFLY EXPLAIN the significance of ELEVEN (11) of the following to EITHER the Return to Judea or the work of Ezra or Nehemiah:  
(22 points; 2 points each)

22

1. Cyrus - Persian king whose spirit God stirred to give the order returning artifacts & the first exiles to Jerusalem.

✓

2. "Cyrus Cylinder" - An order to build a temple for Marduk demonstrating a policy recognizing local deities & giving credibility to Ezra 1.

✓

3. Haggai & Zechariah - Prophets stirring resumption & completion of the temple aided by Messianic expectations caused by upheavals in the empire 520 B.C.

✓

4. Geshum the Arabian - An enemy of the Jews who neutralized Ezra's favor with the Persian king, because he, Geshum, also had close ties with the king, with Sanballat & Tobias his alliance against Ezra was very powerful.

✓

5. "cultural pluralism" - 450's B.C. (Ezra 4).

✓

The empire consisted of many cultures, the policy of cultural pluralism meant that local areas maintained their own ancient customs so that there may be peace in the kingdom.

6. "a ready scribe in the Law of Moses" -

✓ Ezra had the qualifications to:-

① Decipher the vague Hebrew text.

② Put it in the Aramaic that the people could understand

③ Understand how the law applied in daily life.

④ Understood the oral traditions which went with the various regulations of the law.

7. "king's cupbearer" - After having been a trusted servant of the king a subject might be honored by being given the task of bearing the cup for the king. Only a loyal servant could be trusted not to want to poison the king.

8. "second Sinai" - Nehemiah was a cup-bearer ∴ he was trusted

The covenant orchestrated by Ezra and Nehemiah called for resumed obedience to the law of God. This historic establishment of God's law paralleled the "1st Sinai" when the

9. Avar-Nahar - first covenant was ratified. There this later covenant was called a second Sinai.

10. "7th year of Artaxerxes I" - According to Ezra 7:7, Ezra came to Jerusalem in Artaxerxes yr 7 (457-458 B.C.). This assumes Ezra's coming to Jerusalem preceded that of Nehemiah. Some who say Nehemiah's coming preceded Ezra's & date Nehemiah's in 445-444

11. "7th year of Artaxerxes II" - <sup>Date</sup> Ezra's coming in 428-427; <sup>contending the text should</sup> read in Ezr 7:7 the 37th year.

Some who claim that Ezra's coming to Jerusalem came after that of Nehemiah who leave the text of Ezra 7:7 as it stands "the 7th yr of Artaxerxes" contend that the king referred to here is Artaxerxes II who began to reign in 405-404 B.C. Therefore the 7th yr was 398-397 B.C.

12. "(3)7th year of Artaxerxes I" -

13. "20th year of Artaxerxes I" -

Nehemiah received bad news from Jerusalem in the 9th month of year 20 of Artaxerxes I. Appealed to God & received the king's favor & returned to Jerusalem in the Spring of Artaxerxes year 20. Egypt's GK stirred rebellion had ended in 455 B.C., a peace treaty had been signed with Greece in 448 B.C.

PART II: SHORT RESPONSE Nehemiah was a trusted servant. Thus in 445-444

Answer ALL questions. You NEED NOT use full sentences.

he received permission, including the authority to rebuild the wall, which had been stopped from Ezra, probably due to paranoia over the Egyptian rebellion.

BRIEFLY EXPLAIN why so few Jews returned to Judea from Babylon. (2 points)

a. They were materially well off in Babylon. ~~Jerusalem~~

2

b. Jerusalem was a wreck - the rebuilding process would take the people

2. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN why among the first "returnees" there was a:  
(2 points)

a. disproportionately HIGH percentage of priests -

Priests had status by merely serving in the temple & would welcome receiving it.

2

b. disproportionately LOW percentage of Levites -

Levitical training required much hard work & few were willing to endure that.

3. IDENTIFY one (1) probable explanation for the:  
(2 points)

a. Samaritan offer to aid in the rebuilding of the Temple -

2

They offered to aid the people who ultimately had rights to the land & who might supplant the Samaritans if they were not joined with them.  
b. Jews' refusal of the Samaritan offer -

The covenant relationship of God was exclusively with the Israelitish people.

4. LIST the verses of Ezra 4 in their proper chronological order:  
(3 points)

3

- a. verse(s) ~~1-5~~ 1-5
- b. verse(s) v 24
- c. verse(s) 6-23

5. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN by SPECIFIC REFERENCES to Haggai 2:20-23 and Zechariah 6:12-13 and contemporary political events within the Persian Empire, why the people heeded Haggai and Zechariah and began to rebuild the Temple with great zeal.  
(4 points)

4

a. Haggai 2:20-23 and Zechariah 6:12-13 -

The messianic prophecies were associated by the Jews by referring to a God ordained physical leader. Zerubbabel who like the Messiah was of the house of David was associated with the Messiah.

b. contemporary political events within the Persian Empire -

The kingdoms were to be shaken as prophesied. calling to mind how the Persian Empire was being shaken at its roots. Pseudo-Smerdis (522-521.) Thus the people ~~believed~~ thought the Eternal

EXAMINATION #3 (PART I)  
Fall 1979

I THE CANAANITES

A. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN the Canaanite MOTIVE for:

1. Child Sacrifice -  
(2 points)

2. Ritual Fornication -  
(2 points)

B. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN why God labelled these practices "abominations."  
(3 points)

C. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN why the Israelites were drawn to these practices.  
(2 points)

II THE JUDGES

A. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN:

1. The TWO (2) TOTALLY INDEPENDENT functions of a Judge -  
(2 points)
  
2. What generalization can be made about the social background of the individuals who served as Judges? (2 points)
  
3. How we know that, until Samuel, Judges exercised influence over only LIMITED areas of Israel - (2 points)

B. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN how the SEEMINGLY CONTRADICTIONARY accounts of Deborah's deliverance of Israel from the Canaanites (Judges 4 and Judges 5) REALLY ARE COMPLEMENTARY. (8 points)

III THE PHILISTINES

Give an ORGANIZED OVERVIEW of the Philistine conflict with Israel (including major incidents, regions affected, and the leaders who opposed the Philistines). (12 points)

IV SAMUEL

- A. IDENTIFY the MAJOR function of a prophet in ancient Israel. (1 point)
- B. IDENTIFY the major components of a typical prophetic message. (4 points)
- C. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN the nature of the change which seems to have taken place in the prophetic office in ancient Israel. (5 points)



V SAUL

"From the beginning of the Monarchy, it was clear that the King of Israel was NOT an absolute ruler." Demonstrate the truth of this statement. (5 points)

EXAMINATION #1 (PART II)

10/15

DIRECTIONS: Answer ALL questions unless otherwise directed.

I. SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES

Choose FIVE (5) of the following and explain how extra-biblical evidence has further illuminated the meaning of the scripture. (15 points)

1. Gen. 11:31 "And Terah took Abram his son . . . and they went forth . . . from Ur of the Chaldees to go into the land of Canaan."

Among the Ebla tablets are references to a previously undiscovered UR in the district of Haran, where Chaldeans dwelt, in northern mesopotamia. This is in contrast to a long known city, UR, along the Euphrates farther south, which Sumerians, not Chaldeans, inhabited in Abraham's day

3

Just

2. Gen. 24:7 "The Lord God of heaven, which took me from . . . the land of my nativity . . . he shall send his angel before you and you shall take a wife to my son from there."

In the vicinity of Haran were ancient cities with names similar to those of Abraham's paternal ancestry. Gen 11:18-26

(-3)

NOT THE POINT!

3. Joshua 24:4 "...Your fathers dwelt on the other side of the Flood in old time, even Terah the father of Abraham..."

While the city ~~was~~ occupied by the Sumerians was on the side of the Euphrate nearest Canaan, the one spoken of in the Joshua passage was on the other side. Until the discovery of the Ebla tablets some scholars suggested that such a city called ~~was~~ existed on the other side of the Euphrates but had to go on faith. The Ebla tablets confirmed their hypothesis.

Good 3

4. Gen. 25:6 "But to the sons of the concubines... Abraham gave gifts, and sent them away...while he yet lived."
- 

5. Gen. 15:2-3 "And Abram said, Lord God, what wilt thou give me, seeing I go childless, and the steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus?...Behold, to me thou has given no seed and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir."
-

6. Gen. 21:10-11

(Sarah's request to Abraham)  
 "Cast out this bondwoman and her son... And the thing was very grievous in Abraham's sight..."

Lipit - ~~the~~ tablets refer to how it was illegal to send away a bond woman yet the bond woman existed subordinate to the wife and was owned by her. Abraham was grieved out of personal affection for Ishmael and he was disturbed because of the illegality of sending away HARRA.

(-1) ?

who had been a son to the master

7. Gen. 31:19, 52

"...and Rachel had stolen the images that were her father's."  
 "...This heap be witness... that I (Laban) will not pass over this heap to you, and thou shalt not pass over this heap to me for harm."

8. Gen. 31:49-50

"The Lord watch between me and thee... If thou... shalt take other wives besides my daughters..."

in the Nuzi laws, which contained the scenario of the adopted son, the adopted son had to marry into the ~~adopted~~ family in which he was adopted. Jacob appears to have been in such a position, therefore, Laban insisted that Jacob not out side of his family, because he wanted the ~~same~~ satisfaction of having JACOB as his heir.

Not as an heir - didn't need him as heir any more

2 (-1)

$$\frac{42}{45} + \frac{35}{35} = \frac{77}{80}$$

EXAMINATION #2  
Spring 1980

A

PART I: IDENTIFICATION

BRIEFLY EXPLAIN the significance of TEN (10) of the following: (20 points; 2 points each)

- 20/20
1. "cleurachies" - Garrison soldiers for Hellenist rulers like the Ptolemies who farmed given plots of land so that they had a personal interest in defending the local area
  2. "temple land" - Land designated by the Ptolemies as being under religious authority since it was owned by the priest, including Judea, which was owned by the Yodakite priest as indicated by the tithes which went to the temple in Jerusalem. No cleurachies were planted in these lands - no tax farmers to seek tribute from people. The priest delivered up the annual tribute.
  3. Onias II The Yodakite priest who in 201 B.C. rebelled against Ptolemy in anticipation of a Seleucid invasion which in that year failed. This marked the end of Judea as a temple state.
  4. Joseph - Was a wealthy Jew who appeased Ptolemy by paying the annual tribute after Onias II had rebelled by refusing to pay it. Joseph's overt Ptolemaic relation against Judea.
  5. "tax farming" Ptolemies kept accurate records for taxes in Egypt. In S. Syria, to avoid keeping such records, wealthy citizens would bid and whoever offered the highest tribute to the Ptolemies collected the taxes the following year from the people.
  6. Antiochus III  
Ruled from Antioch c. 220 B.C. - 187? B.C. called 'the great'  
Conquered lands lost before hand from the Seleucid Empire  
& went on to conquer S. Syria, including Judea.

7. Onias III - The last H.P. of the Judokites. He opposed all forms of Hellenization - was betrayed by his brother Joshua in 175 B.C. Was murdered in 171 B.C.

8. Antiochus Epiphanes - A.E. c 175? - 161? B.C. Seleucid Ruler; imprisoned in Rome during boyhood. Educated with nobles at Rome & learned of Rome's divide & conquer philosophy to take middle-secut. Instead of cowering, he sought to unite with the Ptolemies to defeat the Romans. The Ptolemies refused so he invaded Egypt in 168. Romans forced a retreat he invaded Judea to push "unifying" Hellenization measures. Jews rebelled & his death

9. Struggle between the Antiochids and the Seleucids spanned Judea from 187? - 175 B.C. & after A.E. died - the descendants of both fought over the throne. This weakened the empire and helped lead to Judea's independence.

10. Judah the Maccabee

11. Jonathan

12. Simeon - in 142 B.C. became H.P. & achieved total autonomy & independence for all practical purposes from the Seleucids. He ruled as "king" as well as priest and was functionally more powerful in Jewish govt. in any office since the days of Moses & Joshua.

PART II: SHORT RESPONSES

Answer ALL parts of EACH question unless otherwise directed. You NEED NOT use full sentences.

1. IDENTIFY the factor which made the Seleucid Empire (and to a lesser extent, the Ptolemaic Empire) fundamentally different from earlier Near Eastern empires. (2 points)

Conquered peoples could achieve equal status with rulers.

2

2. FULLY EXPLAIN why and how this fundamental difference occurred. (4 points)

The Greeks knew that they were too few to run Empire. The soldiers of Alexander preferred taking oriental brides. They offered the oriental upper classes equal status provided these upper-class orientals adopted Hellenic-culture. Because of Oriental elements which the conquered upper classes did not abandon - this was known as Hellenistic Culture.

3. IDENTIFY and BRIEFLY EXPLAIN two (2) reasons why Jews found it practically impossible to obtain citizenship in the Hellenistic cities of the Near East. (6 points)

REASON

EXPLANATION

a. Athletics & circumcision.

a. Gk athletic ideal was the admiration of perfect physical form - circumcision 'defiled' that perfect form. Athletic events were done in the nude. Circumcized Jews exposed their 'defiling' feature.

3

b. The Talm had to become a polis therefore to Hellenize.

b. High-class status in the Gk world was granted only to a polis. Jewish bankers enjoyed local status & wealth, coveted the glitter of cities abroad, but were looked upon as of lower status when they visited abroad. They could only achieve this status by establishing Talm as a polis. They had to adopt Hellenism in order to accomplish that. God's traditions prohibited that.

3

4. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN why tensions between Jews and Gentiles INCREASED during the Hellenistic period. (2 points)

2 Gks required Hellenization in exchange for status. Hellenized cities called Polis's were centers of wealth, education and status. Jewish tradition was opposed to Hellenism. The Jews would not fit in - they became a defensive minority.

5. IDENTIFY two (2) reasons WHY the Ptolemaic Empire was STRONGER than the much larger Seleucid Empire. (2 points)

2 a. The Ptolemies ruled primarily Egyptians who were united by one tradition. The Seleucids ruled many people who were traditional adversaries; Babylonians, Persians, ~~Arabs~~, Syrians.

b. The Ptolemies controlled the Egyptian - Phoenician trade route which went through Palestine & important Mediterranean Islands. The Seleucids were less economically well-off.

6. EXPLAIN FULLY the reasons for the creation of a party that was (1) pro-Seleucid and (2) secret in Judea c. 220 B.C. (4 points)

4 a. pro-Seleucid - They were ruled by the Ptolemies who were enemies of the Seleucids. Antiochus III became the Seleucid ruler in 220 and the Jews anticipated an invasion of Judea by him. They wanted to be an ally of whoever ruled them. T

b. secret - They could only be loyal to the Seleucids in secret - they were still ruled by the Ptolemies.

7. IDENTIFY the IMMEDIATE and LONG-RANGE significance of the "abortive revolt" of the High Priest, Onias II. (4 points)

4 a. immediate significance - It ended Judea's existence as a temple-state.

b. long-range significance - They became allies and pleasing to Antiochus III but their favor with the king died with the king. They had to become political in order to preserve their religious traditions. This led to the undoing of the Judok-line.





PART II: You NEED NOT use full sentences. Feel free to use brief phrases.

1. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN how EACH of the following:

- a) represented a danger to Herod the Great
- b) was neutralized by Herod the Great

(16 points; 4 points each)

Cleopatra - a) This Ptolemy wanted rule over Judea as her ancestors had ruled it. She went through Mark Anthony to achieve end.

b) Herod gave her Libanus and ~~Lebanon~~ ~~Lebanon~~ ~~Lebanon~~



Octavian - a) Defeated Anthony, Herod had supported Anthony. Octavian was successful to defeat Anthony.

b) Herod boldly testified to Octavian that as he had supported Anthony to his death he could be expected to support Octavian to his death. Octavian was impressed by Herod's conviction.



16

Aristobulus III - a) Aristobulus III was generous, only qualified to be king of Judea. He was not as qualified as his brother. He was a weak competitor for rule over Judea.

b) ~~Herod~~ In his absence, Herod quietly arranged a deposing regiment for AR III.



Hyrcanus II - a) Though blameworthy, was still by lineage qualified to be king of Judea.

b) Herod call him from exile had him as his assistant, had him gather letters in support of OCT against Anthony - sent him to Egypt to meet Octavian - embraced him as a friend as he was former & executed for treason against Anthony.



2. IDENTIFY three (3) of the accomplishments of Herod which establish his claim to be called, "the Great." (3 points)

1  
2

- a. His political skills enabled him to keep Judea independent while other smaller states were losing their independence.
- b. ~~His tax system was enabling him to become wealthier than the king.~~
- c. Building projects to appease Jews dislike of him included the building of the most impressive temple in the Empire at Jerusalem.

3. IDENTIFY two (2) ways Judea was administered as an "exceptional" case by the Romans. (2 points)

2

- a. Normally auxiliary forces were local in Judea they used Roman forces.
- b. Normally the procurator had extensive judicial powers, in Judea the Sanhedrin & the H.P. had those powers.

4. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN the reasons why the Romans made these exceptions. (4 points)

4

- a. Jews could not bear arms on the Sabbath - ineffective police force.
- b. The religious laws & cult were so entangled that in order to avoid the procurator from having to administer religious laws, the cult law were in the hands of the H.P. (Act 17).

5. BRIEFLY EXPLAIN the role and responsibilities of the High Priest and the synhedrion in the Roman administration of Judea. (6 points)

4

The H.P. & the high council and other executives, a minority in the Sanhedrin handled day to day domestic administration.

2

Responsible for maintaining politically stable