**CRE PAPER 1**

**1. a) Examine the punishments God gave to the three parties. These are man, woman and the snake.**

**Man**

* Man was made mortal
* He was chased away from the Garden of Eden
* He was cursed to toil and struggle to meet his needs
* He lost the original relationship and friendship he had with God.
* Man was cursed to cultivate unproductive land
* He lost the integrity of masterdom
* The relationship between man and woman was spoilt
* He was cursed to face death.
* Enemty was created between human beings and snake.
* Work which was a blessing was cursed by God and it became a punishment to man.

**Woman**

* She was expelled from the garden of Eden
* Procreation which was a blessing became a curse/punishment.
* Woman was to be a subject to his husband
* She was to have desire for his husband
* The relationship between woman and serpent soured.

**Snake**

* The snake was cursed to crawl on its belly
* It was to eat dust as long as it lives
* The snake’s head was to be crushed by a woman’s offsprings.

1. **Analyse the consequences of man’s rebellion in Gen 3**

* Man was made immortal but after his sin he lost his immortality.
* He was chased away from the garden of Eden
* He was cursed to toil and struggle to meet his needs
* The land which man was to cultivate also cursed to produce thorn.
* Man lost his integrity of masterdom
* Man lost his relationship between the woman
* Enemity arose between man and the snake.
* Work which was originally a blessing later became a punishment
* Procreation which was a blessing it became trouble and the woman is faced with labour pains during pregnancy.
* Man was cursed to eat wildplants

1. **a) Comment on the procedures the Israelites followed when preparing for the making of the Sinai covenant.**

* God called Moses to the mountain
* Moses was told to go alone with 70 of the leaders of Israel
* God told Moses that he was to bow down and worship him while at a distance
* God was to give Moses two stone tablets
* God called the children of Israel to be obedient to his covenant in order to be peculiar people of God
* Moses came down and called the elders and he told them all God’s words.
* The people agreed to do all what God commanded and Moses returned the people’s words to God.
* The people had to sanctify and wash their clothes before the covenant was made.
* They had to purity themselves
* On the third day, God was to come down in the sight of all people upon mount Sinai
* Moses was to set bounds around the people
* No one was to touch the mountain
* They were not to have sexual relations with their lives.
* Mount Sinai was covered by smoke on the third day.
* The priests had to sanctify themselves before coming nearer to God.
* Moses was to speak to the people
* They were to build an alter to the Lord.
* The people were to offer burnt and fellowship sacrifices to God.
* Moses was to read to the people the Lords commandments.

1. **Examine the significance of this covenant to the Israelites**

* Signified the need of prayer
* Showed God’s presence amongst them
* Showed the need to obey God
* Showed the importance of the ten commandments
* Showed Moses as a mediator between Israelites and God
* Marked the beginning of the Israelites being blessed
* Marked the first fellowship between God and the Israelites
* Confirmed Israel as a theocratic nation
* Showed God’s holiness
* Showed the divide election of God
* Confirmed God as the initiator of everything
* It became the basis of teaching among the Israelites
* He elevated the states of Israel as a special house of priests of Yahweh
* It revealed God’s power to the Israelites
* Marked a new relationship between God and the Israelites
* Israelites received code of conduct
* Confirmed the importance of monotheism
* Israel became a great and special nation that God had promised Abraham.

**3. a) Explain the teaching about blessings and curses which came from God in Deuteronomy 28**

* Blessings for obedience
* Blessings would make them greater than other nations
* Obey the Lord your God and all the blessings would be yours
* The Lord will bless their towns and fields
* The Lord will bless you with many children, abundant crops and cattle
* The Lord will bless your crops and food you prepare for them.
* The Lord will bless everything you do.
* The Lord will defeat your enemies when they attack you.
* The Lord will establish you as a holy people to himself
* Blessings in the city and in the village.
* The Lord will open for you his good storehouses, the heavens to give rain in the season.

**Curses**

* The lord will curse your towns and fields.
* He will curse your crops/corns and food prepared from them
* He will curse your children, cattle and sheep
* Curse everything you do.
* If you do evil and reject the Lord, he will bring disaster on your confusion and trouble in everything you do.
* God will send disease after disease on you.
* He will bring drought and scorching winds to destroy your crops
* The disaster will be with you until you die.
* The Lord will give your enemies victory over you
* The Lord will send boils on you.
* Curses upon the city and the village
* To be defeated by enemies
* Israel’s daughters were to be defiled in their eyes
* Curse of sickness.

1. **To what extent did Jesus change this teaching?**

* To a greater extent Jesus changed this teaching.
* Jesus came to remove the curse of the law according to the book of Galatians
* Jesus promised forgiveness for those who repent
* According to Christ sin is a personal responsibility
* To Jesus Christ we are saved by faith in him
* To Jesus Christ God is a loving father who gives time of grace
* According to Jesus’ teaching, suffering for disobedience is not only for the children of Israel but for disobedient people – Jews and gentiles
* According to Jesus Christ God will never punish the children for the sins of their parents.
* According to Christ holiness is not through obedience to the law but having faith in Jesus Christ and live according to his word.
* However, some teachings are still applicable
* Sin is still punished by suffering and death
* Disobedience brings calamity
* Curses were as a result of disobedience of God’s laws.
* It is emphasized that blessings come from God
* Obedience to the 10 commandments is still paramount.

**4. a) Discuss God’s judgment on Eli’s family in 1Samuel 2**

* Eli’s family lost their priesthood
* The Lord promised to treat Eli’s family with a lot of contempt
* The Lord promised that he would kill the young men in Eli’s family and the whole clan.
* Eli’s family was to be troubled and looked with envy as all their blessings would be given to other people of Israel.
* All the descendants of Eli were to die a violent death; this would end Eli’s reign.
* The sons of Eli were to die on the same day
* Eli’s descendants would be turned into beggars
* Eli’s descendants would have to beg to be allowed to help the Lord’s chosen priest from them to have something to eat.
* No one in Eli’s family would live up to an old age.
* The Lord declared to Eli’s family that even they would offer sacrifices they could not be saved from the consequences of their terrible sins.

1. **Analyse the relevance of this message to the modern religious leaders**

* Religious leaders should be ready for judgment and punishment
* Religious leaders should repent their sins and ask for forgiveness.
* Religious leaders should worship only God unlike Eli’s sons who were involved in other religious practices.
* Religious leaders should always be contented with what they have unlike Eli’s family which was greedy.
* Religious leaders should humble themselves as they serve others
* Religious leaders should consult the Lord before doing anything.
* Religious leaders should serve the Lord honestly and diligently
* Religious leaders should listen to the people they serve.
* Religious leaders should be exemplary
* Religious leaders should respect places of worship
* Religious leaders should serve all people equally
* Religious leaders should discipline their children
* Religious leaders should maintain their holiness.

1. **a) Comment on the way David transferred the covenant box to Jerusalem**

* David organized 30,000 soldiers and led them to baalah
* When they reached Abinadab’s home they placed the covenant box on the new cart which was pulled by an oxen.
* The new cart was guided by Ahio who was walking in front and Uzzah was behind.
* David and all the Israelites were dancing and singing for the Lord.
* As they came to the threshing place of Nawn, the oxen stumbled.
* Uzzah reached out and took hold of the covenant box and he touched it.
* At once the Lord became angry with Uzzah and killed him because of his irrelevance.
* David was furious because of Uzzah’s death. Therefore he decided to take the covenant box to Obed Edom’s home.
* The covenant box stayed out Obed Edom’s home for 3 months. Where God blessed Obededom’s family.
* When David heard about God blessing ObedEdoms family, he organized the Israelites to go and collect the covenant box.
* When the men who were carrying the covenant box walked six steps, David stopped and offered sacrifices to God.
* After offering sacrifices David and all the Israelites continued their way to Jerusalem will dance with their might honouring and praising the Lord.
* The covenant box was taken to Jerusalem with shouts of joy and the sound of trumpets
* After sacrificing he blessed the people of Israel in the name of God and later distributed food to all the people.
* Then he sent them home.

1. **Examine the significance of this event to the people of Israel.**

* This event presented David as a religious character.
* It showed that God is the source of blessings
* It showed that God is powerful (omnipotent)
* It showed that the Israelites had to worship God with all their might.
* Events showed that God can be worshipped in various ways.
* It showed that God is omnipresent
* It showed that regardless of one’s status God had to be worshipped.
* It showed that Yahweh is a punishing God
* Holy duties are supposed to be respected and feared by the people chosen by God.
* Showed David’s obedience.

**6. a) Assess the effects of the building of the temple by Solomon on the people of Israel during his time**

**Positive**

* The temple became a centre of unity
* Encouraged the worship of God among the Israelites
* Settlement place for disputes
* Covenant box and laws got a fixed place where they could be kept.
* It became a symbol of Israel’s religious heritage.
* It brought God near to his people
* Reminding place to the Israelites about their obligations and responsibilities.
* Encouraged fellowship amongst the people.
* Israel came to be recognised by other nations
* It added the beauty to Jerusalem
* It attracted many visitors to Israel
* Trade with other nations was encouraged
* Internationalized peace with neighbouring states was promoted.
* It became a dedication place
* It became a repentance place.
* The Israelites conducted their sacrifices to God in the temple
* It strengthened the diplomatic relation
* It promoted monotheism
* It became a centre for national religious festivals

**Negatives**

* Heavy/over taxation of the people
* Forced labour
* Enslavement of people
* It led to regional imbalance
* Brought about pagan influence
* There was the selling of the Israelite’s land
* Forced Solomon to make political alliances with itiram
* There was worshipping of the temple instead of God.
* Israelites pretended to be religious in the temple yet continued to sin outside the temple
* It brought about famine
* It created worries and anxiety
* The temple became a den for/of robbers
* There was oppression and exploitation of the poor
* There was importation of foreigners architectures
* It led to a huge national debt
* It became a stumbling block for Israel’s repentance
* Rise of false prophets in Israel
* The division and collapse of the kingdom of God (Israel)
* People of Israel became proud and arrogant
* It gave false security and protection for the people of Israel.

**7. a) Examine the contest between the prophets of Baal and Elijah at Mount Camal.**

* After sometime in the third year of the drought, the Lord told Elijah to go and present himself to King Ahab so that he ends the rain.
* As Obadiah was looking for water he met Elijah who told him to inform Ahab about his presence.
* Ahab met Elijah on meeting him he referred to him as the worst trouble maker.
* Elijah told Ahab to mobilize the Israelites to meet him at Mt. Camel
* Together with all the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of goddess Asherah.
* Ahab did as he was instructed and all the people and prophets of Baal met at Mt. Camel.
* When they assembled Elijah asked them how much longer it would take them to make up their minds.
* Elijah requested the prophets of Baal to organize a sacrifice to be consumed by a divine fire sent by Baal in order to prove his righteousness.
* The Baal prophets performed all their rituals but Baal did not answer their prayer.
* Elijah challenged the false prophets by organizing a sacrifice and even praying to God for a heavy rain to pour on the sacrifice which God did.
* He prayed to God responded by sending a divine fire down which burnt up the sacrifice and even the water dried up
* This confirmed that Yahweh was the Lord.
* When the Israelites rose up Elijah ordered them to seize all the prophets of Baal.
* After a short while it started raining bringing an end to the drought proving that God is the source of rain and controller of climate.

**b) Discuss the significance of this contest to the Israelites**

* It showed God’s might over Baal.
* It revealed God’s omnipotence over Baal
* The Israelites got to know that God is always willing to answer their prayer
* It showed God’s omnipresence
* It showed that God is a spirit
* It proved Elijah as a true prophet of God
* It showed the power of prayers.
* The Israelites learnt that God punishes sinners.
* It proved to Israelites that Yaweh was a true and living God
* T showed God’s superiority over Baal.
* It brought about religious sanity (monotheism)

**8. a) Why did Amos condemn the rich people of his time?**

* Amos said that these rich women were just growing fat like the well-def cows of Bashan
* Amos sad that these rich people obtained their wealth through oppressing and exploiting the poor.
* The rich people used to discriminate in the places in the places of worship. The poor would sit alone and the rich alone.
* They also used to offer sacrifices to Baal and at the same time Yahweh.
* He also condemned them for their hypocrisy. They continued sinning against the order and would worship him without repenting.
* They preferred listening to false prophets than the ones sent by Yahweh.
* There was grabbing of sacrificial animals by the rich people from the poor and thus the Lord could not accept their offerings.
* There was a lot of syncretism among them. They worshipped other gods alongside Yahweh.
* The Sabbath had become an inconvenience to them. They felt that the day was stopping them from gaining profits.
* They were involved in idolatry. They made images ad worshipped them instead of Yahweh.
* Amos condemned the rich people of Israel for occupying urban areas as they pushed the poor to rural areas.
* The rich were over charging high interest on loans thus it was only making people poorer.
* They were cheating the poor by using false weighing scales to exploit and cheat them.
* The rich people had filled their houses rich with property confiscated from the poor who could not pay their debts.
* They were only interested in accumulating material wealth and had therefore forgotten their God.

**b) Why would Amos condemn the rich today?**

* They worshipped Yahweh alongside other gods
* They misuse their bodies and yet they are the Lord’s temple.
* They discriminate in the holy places. The poor sit alone and the rich also sit alone.
* They do not respect the Sabbath day for they work for all the seven days without rest.
* They are corrupt especially the leaders of countries
* Some practice human sacrifice for wealth. For instance some give their first borns.
* They give their children to God and at the same time to their other gods for instance they give them names like Mukasa Paul.
* They are hypocrites. They continue sinning and then go to worship the Lord without repenting.
* They only want to accumulate their wealth and do not bother helping the needy or giving any charitable works.
* They exploit the poor. Some poor people have been chased off their lands and even the courts can’t help them for the rich just bribe.
* Some carryout polytheism. This is the worship of more than one god.
* They no longer observe the holy ceremonies or celebrations and hence work on those days as well.

**9. a) Explain the complaints which God had against the priest in the book of Hosea.**

* Thy had ignored their duties as messengers of God
* The priest rejected God’s teachings and instructions
* They had become so rich out of animals they received from evil people as sacrifices to God.
* They were found of giving empty sacrifices
* They failed to provide hasting justice to their people
* They failed o repent
* They were not exemplary
* They were victims of idolatry
* They encouraged evil among the people.
* They never respected God’s temple
* They never respected God as their liberator
* They treated God’s sacrifice with a lot of disrespect
* They were greedy, selfish and materialistic.
* They were not good models
* They were corrupt and judged cases in favour of the rich
* They were blasphemous
* They committed murder
* They carried out adultery
* They were liers
* They carried out thefty
* They were sexually immoral
* They nolonger sought for God’s guidance.
* The religious festivals had turned into drinking orgies.

1. **How relevant is Hosea’s teaching to the modern priests.**

* Modern priests should be faithful to God.
* Modern priests should believe in God.
* They should learn to keep promises.
* They should offer insincere sacrifices
* They should live exemplary
* They should always acknowledge God’s name
* They should respect their bodies
* They should be just
* Married people should be faithful to their partners
* They should learn to speak the truth.
* They should be humble, polite, upright and not hypocritical
* They should comfort those in problems
* They should emphasize God’s day of judgment
* They should condemn false religious leaders.
* They should call for repentance and assure sinners of God’s forgiveness.
* They should look for those who are lost in sin and bring them back to God.
* They should condemn syncretism
* They should care for the poor and unprivileged.
* They should prioritize spiritual matters.
* They should preach God’s ways to the people.
* They should guide Israelites into the right paths.

**10. a) Examine the call of Jeremiah to be a prophet.**

* Jeremiah was called as a prophet in the 13th year when Josiah was the king of Judah.
* He was too young when he was called and because of that he tried to object against the God’s will.
* The Lord told him not to be afraid.
* The Lord immediately touched his lips and put words in his mouth and gave him authority over all nations to uproot, tear down and to destroy.
* He also went ahead to promise Jeremiah that he would be with him in all situations to protect him against any threat.
* God gave him all the words to speak and to be his spokesman. The message he had to give was that of God.
* His call was also accompanied by 2 visions and God asked him to say what he was seeing.
* Jeremiah saw a branch of almond tree which had shed off its leaves meaning God was watching and waiting to see his words come true.
* The branch of almond tree signified suffering among the people of Judah.
* The 2 vision was that of a boiling pot in the north which was tilted almost pouring on Judah which symbolized disaster to the southern people.
* An army from the north would come and destroy Jerusalem and Judah, the Lord had exposed to their enemies because of their behavior.
* The Lord reminded Jeremiah to get ready and go start his prophetic ministry.
* The Lord told Jeremiah that everyone in the land of Judah would be against him such as priests, officials and the people.
* He gave Jeremiah the strength to resist from his enemies and those against him.
* The Lord assured Jeremiah that he would protect and support him in his prophetic ministry.

**b) What lessons can Christians learn from the call of Jeremiah?**

* Christians should always be ready for God’s call, like Jeremiah was.
* They should respond to God’s call positively like Jeremiah responded
* They should trust God like Jeremiah trusted God
* They should serve God with commitment like Jeremiah was committed to his work and God.
* Christians should speak the truth like Jeremiah told God that he was young, which was true.
* Christians should serve without fear and favour just as Jeremiah was confident enough with his words.
* Christians should seek protection from God just like Jeremiah was protected by God.
* Christians should always speak the truth like Jeremiah told god the real visions he was receiving.
* They should always listen to God’s message just like Jeremiah listened carefully to God during his encounter.
* They should be ready for judgment and punishment like Jeremiah was ready for those who were going to be against him.
* Christians should preach the good news of salvation like Jeremiah was ready to preach.
* They should confide in God just like Jeremiah confided the whole of his ministry in God.
* Christians should believe in their ability like Jeremiah believed he could do God’s work.

**11. “Ezekiel dramatized God’s future plan for Judah and Israel through his prophetic signs”. Comment.**

* The Lord commanded Ezekiel to withdraw himself from the public and shut himself in his house. His tongue would be paralysed and unable to speak. This implied that Israel’s sins were beyond forgiveness and the prophet could nolonger plead for them.
* Ezekiel was commanded to draw a map of Jerusalem as a brick a great siege. This meant that Jerusalem would be attacked and destroyed by the enemies.
* Ezekiel was told to lie on his left side for 390 days. This meant that Israel would be in exile for 390 days.
* Ezekiel slept on the right side for 40 days during which suffered the guilt of Judah. This meant that for 40 years the people of Judah would be in exile.
* He was only allowed 230g of bread each day referring to food shortage resulting into starvation among the exiled people of Israel.
* The prophet was allowed only two cups of water a day. This implied that there would be scarcity of water for God’s people.
* The Lord commanded Ezekiel to build fire using dried human excrement. This meant that Israel would eat food forbidden according to their law.
* The Lord directed Ezekiel to use a sharp sword for sharing his head and all his hair, a sign of mourning in Israel. It meant that there would be mourning.
* The prophet was instructed to weigh his hair on scales and divide it into three parts. This meant that the people of Jerusalem would be divided by the Babylonians during massive destruction.
* The Lord told Ezekiel to burn a 3rd of his hair in the city of Jerusalem when the siege was over meaning that a third of the people would do of sickness and nolonger in the city.
* Ezekiel was told to take another third of his hair and chop it up with his sword outside the city. In the same way a third of the people would be chopped outside the city.
* The prophet was told to scatter the remaining third of his hair for the Lord to pursue it with his sword implying that a third of the people would be scattered everywhere but only for them to face the Lord’s wrath.
* However, the Lord instructed Ezekiel to keep a few of his hair in his pocket. This means that a few people would survive God’s destruction.
* Ezekiel packed his belongings as a refugee and moved out of the house as everyone was seeing. This implied that the people would become refugees and captives in a foreign land.
* Ezekiel dug a hole on his wall using his hands and passed through it with his belongings. This signified that the people would desperately try to escape but the Lord would trap and take them to the city of Babylon.

**12. a) Examine the major themes of psalms 47**

* The psalmist depicted God calling the people to go to him so that they could be saved.
* The psalmist presents God as the supreme king (ruler)
* The psalmist calls upon people to rejoice and praise God with loud songs.
* He refers to God as the most high, to be feared by the people.
* He also refers to him as the great king, ruling over the entire world.
* He presents God as the source of victory.
* He says that God is to be feared because he is Lord and most high.
* He presents god as a most powerful and source of power
* He acknowledges God as a giver of land as a possession of his people whom he loves.
* He shows that God has a throne where there are shouts of joy and blasts of trumpets. His throne is sacred.
* The rulers of the nations assemble before God together with others.

**b)What lessons can modern Christians learn from psalms 47?**

* Modern Christians should solicit for victory from God since he is the only source of victory.
* Modern Christians should ask God for forgiveness
* They should be hopeful in times of difficult because he is the giver and protector.
* They should express joy when God answers their prayers.
* Modern Christians should learn to trust in God instead of alliance.
* Modern Christians should allow God to work in them.
* Modern Christians should pray and serve God in faith.
* They should be obedient and seek protection from God
* They should commit themselves to God because he is a divine protector of the people.
* Modern Christians should worship and praise God every time.
* Modern Christians should depend only on one God Yahweh.
* They should put God at the forefront of their undertakings.
* They should be thankful to God for whatever achievement.
* Modern Christians should set aside days of national praise and repentance to their God.