

Shalom Carmy

Dec. 2009

JHI 1834: FINAL EXAMINATION

Answer 8 of 10.

1. Evaluate Rabbi Binder's response on theological and pedagogical grounds. What would you have done in his place?

2. Discuss Levinas on revelation, referring to passage discussed in class. How does his position differ from Buber's?

3. Present Rosenzweig's views on Judaism and Christianity. Can it provide a basis for Jewish-Christian dialogue?

4. Discuss R. Kook's views on the role of modern Hebrew literature in light of his exchange with AZ Rabinowitz.

5. How does Hazon Ish's choice of examples help his argument about the role of Musar? Discuss the implications of a different set of examples.

6. Contrast Ahad Haam with Brenner regarding the nature of Jewish culture.

7. Discuss areas where Herzl's views were controversial within the Zionist movement of his time. Explain position of religious Zionism on these questions.

8. Discuss areas where the Rav's depiction of halakhic man stands in contrast with *homo religiosus*. Explain reasons for divergence. Can *homo religiosus* be ignored by Jewish thought?

9. Discuss R. Kook's views about how one might proceed in confronting alien ideas, based on *Orot haKodesh* text discussed in class. Note also his discussion of evolution in his letters.

10. Contrast Buber and Rosenzweig on the place of Halakha in Judaism.

BONUS: A) Mention one significant issue on which your thinking has changed as a result of our study together. B) In what context did we discuss Hancock's TV play "The Blood Donor"? C) Outline dialogue involving R. Kook, Herzl, Jabotinsky and Ahad Haam, taking place at a blood bank.

Thank you for making the semester worthwhile for me. I hope you have benefited equally. I can be reached at carmy@yu.edu.

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