

Your take-home exam is due according to the official University Final Exam Schedule. Since our exam is scheduled for Sunday, August 10th from 2:00 – 5:00 PM, you must send your exam to me as an email attachment by 5:00 PM on Aug. 10th. **Be sure and complete both a short essay and a long essay.**

- I. Short Essay – Pick one essay from the choices below. Do not try to answer more than one. Be sure and answer all parts of the question that you choose for the short essay. As a general guide, you should plan on writing three to four typed, double-spaced pages using a 12-pt font (Times New Roman or similar font) in answering the short essay; however, please remember that your grade will be based more on the content of your answer than on its length. (40 points)

1. Discuss some of the important aspects of Greco-Roman religiosity. Then compare and contrast the ways in which Pauline converts and their non-Jewish neighbors understood and practiced their religion. Propose a solution for any problems that you predict would have arisen in the daily interaction of the early Christians with their neighbors.

2. Describe what we can determine about the organizational structure of the churches in the undisputed letters of Paul. Be sure and give specific examples from these letters. Compare and contrast the structure of these house churches with the associations prevalent in Greco-Roman society in the first century.

3 Describe the criteria that are involved in evaluating Pauline or non-Pauline authorship. Then pick either 2 Thessalonians or Colossians. How do these criteria relate to one's opinion of whether or not Paul wrote the letter? Argue either for or against Pauline authorship. Be sure and give specific examples from the letter that you choose to discuss.

4. Do you think that Paul was addressing the same problems within the Corinthian churches in canonical 1st Corinthians as he was in canonical 2nd Corinthians? Do you think the problems in the Corinthian churches can be attributed to the tenets of a contemporary philosophy? Be sure and support your opinion with specific examples from the letters.

- II. Long Essay – Pick one essay from the choices below. Do not try to answer more than one. Be sure and answer all parts of the question that you choose for the long essay. As a general guide, you should plan on writing approximately five to six typed, double-spaced pages using a 12-pt font (Times New Roman or similar font) in answering the long essay; however, please remember that your grade will be based more on the content of your answer than on its length. (60 points)

1. Compare and contrast the portraits of Paul that are presented in the undisputed letters, Acts, and the Deutero-Paulines. Give some specific examples. Based on these portraits, formulate a characterization of the “historical Paul.”

2. Does Paul's theology have a center? Was Paul consistent or inconsistent? Be sure and discuss various scholarly opinions and give specific examples from the undisputed letters.
3. Discuss the participatory aspects of Pauline Soteriology. How did these participatory aspects affect Paul's understanding of the local churches as the corporate body of Christ and determine the ways in which Paul understood community ethics? Give specific examples from the undisputed letters.
4. Explain Paul's Christology as it was expressed in the undisputed letters (give specific examples). How do you think Paul's Christology related to Jewish monotheism?