

 **Early Christianity**
Exam B

ESSAY QUESTIONS

1. On what grounds can we reasonably suppose Christianity to have reached even the farthest corners of the Roman Empire by the end of the first century? (10 pts.)

2. Why should Christians study Roman history and culture? (10 pts.)

3. What were the distinctives of the main three Jewish religious parties at the time of Christ? (10 pts.)

4. What main themes does the *Didache* talk about? (10 pts.)

5. How did the third century differ from the second century in the Roman Empire? What was one of the significant contributors to this difference? (10 pts.)

6. What is the Greek concept of *logos*? How does Justin Martyr develop this idea in relation to both Christianity and the Greek philosophers? (12 pts.)



7. According to the Gnostics, what is the purpose of salvation and how does one achieve that goal? (10 pts.)

8. Which apostle did Christians in India claim first evangelized them? Why is this a plausible tradition? (8 pts.)

9. How was Eusebius different from all previous Greek and Roman historians? (10 pts.)

10. What changed radically for Christians when Constantine gained control of the Roman Empire? (10 pts.)

EXTRA CREDIT

11. According to tradition, Polycarp was a disciple of which apostle? Why is that plausible? (5 pts.)

12. How did Clement's use of the Orpheus myth differ from other early Christians' use of it? (5 pts.)
