Endings/W05 Sample Bible Questions for Test 1

The exam is likely to contain a selection of the questions below.

1. What are the connections between the two halves of the Book of Daniel?

2. The readings we have done in Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, and Judges are not in themselves apocalyptic. But they contain themes and elements that later find their way into apocalyptic. Name at least four of these, and for each one, give at least one specific example of where it is illustrated.

3. (a) Give a one- or two-sentence summary of the Deuteronomic theory of history that uses the word “apostasy.” (b) Discuss at least three places in the Bible reading (other than Daniel) where the theory is “demonstrated.”

4. The Bible grew out of ancient cultures much concerned with the defeat of enemies and revenge on them. In such cultures, one of the main things your god could do for you was defeat your enemies. When he did, you would praise him for it, and you would exult in their defeat and destruction. Discuss at least three places where we see this played out in the Bible readings so far.

5. A recurrent theme in our readings has been the reputation of God – the importance of building up, or preserving, his reputation for power. (Perhaps a more biblical word for his is “glory.”) Discuss places where we see this theme played out in the Bible readings so far.

6. The writers of the Book of Joshua relate the Israelites’ conquest of Canaan with a definite point of view, a definite thesis. What is this point of view, this thesis? How does it play out in such episodes as the conquest of Jericho?

7. One of the ways in which the God of the Hebrew Bible demonstrates his power is that he is able to accomplish his ends through sometimes imperfect, flawed people. Give some examples of imperfect he works through to accomplish his ends. Name at least three, and discuss their flaws and what God accomplishes through them anyway.

8. What do the writers of the Bible and the science writers we have read so far have to say about the responsibility of humans for what happens to them, their world, and their societies?
The exam is likely to contain a selection of the questions (or very closely related questions) below.

1. What is your poster’s topic (be as specific as you can)? With whom are you working on it (solo is okay)?

2. Explain how the condensation of the solar nebula and cold water pooling at the bottom of the ocean are both related to the force of gravity. By this, I don’t mean mathematically; I mean how does gravity help explain both phenomena.

3. Explain how convection cells in the Earth’s mantle and a glass shattering are both related to the second law of thermodynamics.

4. Place the following events in order from oldest (1) to most recent (4):

Wisconsonian Ice Age  K/T (Mesozoic/Cenozoic) mass extinction
Pangaea forming The writing of the Bible

5. Choose one of the scenarios below and explain how that scenario could lead to a mass extinction. It would be a good idea to define a “mass extinction” in your answer.

a. The coincidence of the three Milankovitch orbital parameters leading to extreme seasonal differences in both the Northern and Southern hemispheres

b. Meteorite or comet strike

c. Formation of a supercontinent