Possible Short-Answer Questions

*Short-answer questions will come from the following blue sheets:*

Wed. 2/16: Heremiah
Fri. 2/18: Ezekiel
Wed.-Fri. 2/23-2/25: Late Judaism and the Gospel of Mark
Fri. 2/25: Mark, Matthew, and Paul
Mon. 2/28: The Kingdom of God in Late Judaism
Wed. 3/2: Revelation 1.1 to 11.19
Fri. 3/4: Revelation 12.1 to end.
Fri. 3/11: Zechariah, Joel, Malachi, T.N. Bright on “dualities” and “Christian Hope” (handout)

*Short answer questions will not appear exactly as they are in the handouts but will be close:*

**Blue sheet version:** Ezekiel 34.1-31: Israel’s kings – its shepherds – have failed it. Who will be their shepherds now – name two.

**Test version:** In Ezekiel, God accuses Israel’s “shepherds” of failing Israel. Who are these shepherds, and what will God do about their failure?

Samples (some of which will actually appear):

1. What is one principal image Jeremiah uses for Israel’s apostasy? (The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in . . .)

2. (a) In Jeremiah, what two reasons are given for why Israel continually sins? (b) Later in the book, what does God say he will do to remedy these causes?

3. In Ezekiel, what does God promise to do for Israel to help ensure that she remains faithful to him?

4. In Ezekiel, when the forces of Israel defeat Gog, (a) for how long will Israelites experience savings in their heating bills? (b) On the other hand, what public expense will go *up*?

5. What point is YHWH making to Ezekiel in showing him the Valley of Dry Bones?

6. (a) In Mark, at one point, Peter rebukes Jesus for preaching – what? (b) Why would Peter not understand what Jesus is saying here?

7. In the apocalyptic chapter of Mark, what “large buildings” is Jesus talking about in the first two verses, and what will happen to them?
8. In the apocalyptic chapter of Mark, Jesus describes a coming day of suffering such as has not been seen since the beginning of the world. How come anyone survives it?

9. Give two examples of “apocalyptic morality” such as Jesus preaches in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew.

10. According to Paul in 1 Thessalonians, what will precede the Rapture?

11. What explanation does T.N. Bright give for the cosmic imagery used in Jewish apocalyptic for the restoration of Israel?

12. In Zechariah, who will be the leaders of a restored Israel, and what will be their first task?

13. In Joel, what striking imagery is used for what will happen on the Day of the Lord? Who, mainly, will be punished that day?

14. In Malachi, as Israelites return to a restored Israel, who will else come with them? How many?

15. Hebrew prophecy uses the metaphor of resurrection for what it hopes will be the literal return from exile. According to T.N. Bright, what does Christian apocalyptic do with this pattern?

16. Approximately place the following on the timeline below (see 2/23-2/25 Late Judaism and the Gospel of Mark handout, plus Harris):

   Israel’s exile in Babylon, destruction of the first temple, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Joel, Daniel, invasion of Alexander and beginning of Hellenism, the first Great Tribulation, the writing of the Gospel of Mark, etc.

   1000 B.C.E. David
   900 B.C. E.
   800
   700
   600
   500
   1 C.E. Jesus
   100 C.E.
   200 CE
Possible Essay Questions

*These questions should be answered in essays of about 400 words supported by many examples. Suggestion: Underline key words in each question and use them in your answer to help keep you focused!*

1. Apocalyptic ends in hope. This is something it shares with much Hebrew prophecy. (a) What expectations do the Hebrew prophets at their most hopeful express and (b) what are some of the more dramatic expressions of these expectations – dramatic in terms of beauty and grandeur of imagery? Cite at least three different prophets in your answer.

2. War and conflict imagery pervades both apocalyptic writing and Hebrew prophecy. Demonstrate how this is so, drawing on both the Hebrew prophets read in the latter part of our course (Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, Joel, Malachi) and apocalyptic writings: Daniel, Revelation, Mark 13, the Testament of Moses, the War Scroll, and the Wisdom of Solomon (the last three are quoted in T.N. Bright, “The Hope of Israel” handout).

3. Compare the Jesus of Revelation with the Jesus of Mark and Matthew.

4. What does Revelation owe to Hebrew prophetic writing and apocalyptic – Ezekiel, Zechariah, Daniel – and (b) In what ways is it new and different?

5. What promises and consolations do Daniel and Revelation offer to martyrs? (You might want to separate your Daniel and Revelation sections).

6. Mention “apocalyptic” to the average person on the street and the person is likely to say, “end of world.” But you are not the average person on the street; you are a scholar of the Bible. If you could get this person to stop and listen to you speak about 400 words, what would you point out to set the person straight?