



Mor Athanasius Jacobite Sunday School

Under the patronage of

[St George Universal Syrian Orthodox Reesh Church (Valiyapally), Kuwait]

10. _____ are those who are purified by God and merged with the Lord?

- (a. Prophets b. Apostles **c. Saints**)

II. FILL UP THE BLANKS

(10 x 0.5 = 5 marks)

1. **Malachi** prophesied after the Temple in Jerusalem was re-constructed by the Jews who returned from exile.
2. After the incident on the way to Damascus, Saul was led to the house of **Judas** at Straight Street.
3. The Church respects the **cross** as symbol of Redemption.
4. Obadiah states that **Edomites** were very happy, when Nebuchadnezzar defeated Jerusalem and carried away the wealth..
5. Thuruthussery meeting elected H. B. Mor Baselius II, the Catholicose of the East as the **Malankara Metropolitan.**
6. Samaria (middle part of the promised land) belonged to the **sons of Joseph.**
7. On **29th of June** 67 A. D Peter was crucified at Rome.
8. The Upper Room (Mansion at Zion) is considered as **Second Babel.**
9. The Sunday School association was rejuvenated and was given the name **MJSSA.**
10. In Acts of Apostles, more than the history of the individuals, importance is given to the **Christian message.**

III. MATCH THE FOLLOWING

(5 x 0.5 = 2.5 Marks)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Humble King - c | a. Obadiah |
| 2. Gift of God - e | b. Malachi |
| 3. Simhasana Church - d | c. Zechariah |
| 4. Expected Messenger - b | d. Mor Julius |
| 5. Servant of the Lord - a | e. Matthias |



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IV. STATE TRUE OR FALSE

(5 x 0.5 = 2.5 marks)

1. Jesus said “I am the God of the dead and the living”. **False**
2. There are many evidences to prove that St. Thomas has established the Holy see in Malankara. **False**
3. Obadiah had a clear and definite vision about Christ as the Judge of all nations. **True**
4. On the 10th day of Ascension of Jesus as promised holy Spirit bestowed upon the 120 people gathered. **True**
5. On returning from Babylon the Jews showed interest to build their own house as well as the temple of God. **False**

V. WRITE SHORT NOTES (upto 4 sentences)

(5 x 2 = 10 Marks)

1. Who was chosen to replace the vacancy of Judas Iscariot? What were the qualities set for the selection?

Matthias was selected to replace the place of Judas Iscariot **[0.5 marks]**

St. Peter declared the two important qualities set for the selection as

[0.75 marks for each point]

1. **He should have followed Jesus from His baptism at Jordan River to his ascension.**
2. **He should be an eye -witness to the Resurrection of Jesus.**
2. Establish on biblical grounds that it is perfectly proper to address, “St. Mary as the mother of God.” **[0.5 marks for each point]**
 - i. **She earned that title “Mother of God” by giving birth to God.**
 - ii. **God, the Son, the second in the Trinity, has taken human form from Virgin Mary and was born as human being.**
 - iii. **“In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God”.**



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iv. Virgin Mary who was the mother of this word that was God deserves the title Mother of God.

Thus, it is perfectly proper to address St. Mary as the “Mother of God” on Biblical grounds.

3. When was the Antiochian Syrian Movement formed? State the reason for its formation.

The Antiochian Syrian Movement was formed in June 5th 1959.

[0.5 marks]

The sudden unity between the Patriarchate & the Catholicose parties declared and achieved in 1958 was without far sighted thinking or clear procedures. So, that unity failed to produce perpetual peace in Malankara. Several insults and many incidents defying the Holy see of Antioch from the Catholicose party produced uneasiness in the Church again. The Antiochian Syrian Movement was formed to protect the stance of the Catholicose party. **[1.5 marks]**

4. ‘A prophesy and a Promise were fulfilled on the day of Pentecost’. Justify

[1mark for each point]

i. The prophesy by Prophet Joel “Then afterwards I will pour out my spirit on all flesh.” (2:28) was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. Apostle Paul confirms that the experience on Pentecost was the fulfillment of the prophesy of Joel.

ii. The promise by Jesus Christ at the time of His Ascension to send the Holy Spirit was also fulfilled on the day of Pentecost.

Thus, the prophesy and the promise both about the Holy Spirit was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost.

5. Describe how the angel of the Lord help to release Peter from the jail?

[0.5 marks for each point]



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- i. The night before Herod was to bring Peter to trial, an angel came to the prison while Peter was sleeping between the two soldiers, chained to his hands.
- ii. The angel woke Peter up, all the chains fell from his hands and the angel led him out through the first & the second guard –post.
- iii. The iron doors opened automatically. While they were walking through the road the angel left him.
- iv. Peter went out and went to the believers who were sitting in the house of Mark, who were praying for him and told everything that happened.

VI. WRITE LONG ANSWERS(answer ANY TWO only) (upto 9 sentences)

(2 x 5 = 10 Marks)

1. Prayers for the departed ones are proper and Spiritual. Justify

[1 mark for each point]

- There is no prayer in the church for the dead. By death we mean departed. Departed means a transfer from one place to another. All the prayers in the church are for the departed souls.
- The death of a believer is compared with a sleep, a slumber. Lazarus died and was buried. After 4 days, standing near his grave, Jesus told Martha and Mary that Lazarus “shall rise again”. When they were going to the house of Lazarus Jesus told his disciples that Lazarus is sleeping. Jesus told them “I am the resurrection and life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live (St. John 11: 25). It is because Lazarus was sleeping, that he came out of the grave when Jesus summoned him.
- St: Paul tells us that all men should pray for each other and enquire the goodness of others. Even though he was absent in flesh, he could be with



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them in spirit and enjoy their steadfastness in faith: “Be joyful always, pray at all times. Be thankful in all circumstance. This is what God wants from you in your life in union with Christ Jesus (I Thessalonians 5: 16-18)”

- “God did not choose us to suffer his anger, but to possess salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us in order that we might live together with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes”.
 - It is the duty of every believer to pray for the spiritual growth and welfare of others. St: Paul usually prayed for the spiritual growth and welfare of others. He prayed for his dear departed one. “May the Lord show mercy to the family of Onesiphorus. May the Lord grant him his Mercy on that day” (II Timothy 1: 16-18).
2. Describe the incident how Saul the great scholar became apostle Paul.

[1 mark for each point]

- **Saul was a Roman citizen. He was zestful in observing the Law of God. He was enthusiastic in persecuting the Christian Church. He kept up his violent threats of murder against the followers of the Lord. He set out with a few people with letters of introduction to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he could find out any followers of the church, he could arrest and bring them back to Jerusalem.**
- **As Saul was approaching the city of Damascus, he had a vision. A dazzling light from the sky flashed around him. He fell down to the ground and heard a voice, “Saul, Saul! Why do you persecute me?” “Who are you, Lord?” he asked. “I am Jesus whom you persecute,” the voice said. “But get up and go into the city, where you will be told what you must do”.**



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- When he got up he could not see anything. He was led to the house of Judas at straight street. For three days he fasted.
 - At God's guidance a disciple named, Ananias came to Saul and placed his hands on him and prayed. His vision was restored. He received baptism.
 - After his baptism, Saul went to the desert for keeping communion with God and for meditation for some time. Saul returned to Damascus as totally changed man and full of enthusiasm.
3. The throne of David is related with Christ in the book of Chronicles. Explain with Biblical references. **[1 mark for each point, if no reference to reduce 0.25 marks each.]**
- **David is linked with Christ. The covenant which God made with David is an everlasting one** - (1 Chronicles.17:1-29). "I will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. I will not take my steadfast love from him, as I took it from him who was before you, but I will confirm him in my house and in my kingdom forever, and his throne shall be established forever"
 - **The never-ending dynasty is that of the Messiah. The never-ending kingdom of David points to the kingdom of Messiah. Both the kingdom of David and the Temple itself were destroyed, the covenant of the Lord still remains.**
 - **It is already proved that the actual Temple and the throne are that of the Christ.** Jesus himself explained it. In fact, the Temple points direct to Christ: "I tell you, something greater than the temple is here" (St. Matthew 2:6).



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- **Jesus says he himself is the Temple. Nobody can destroy this Temple.** He said: “Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’” (St. John 2:19).
- **Ultimately, the permanent temple will be that of the Christ and it cannot be destroyed, so says the book of Revelation.** “I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ”(Revelation: 21:22)

Thus, the throne of David is related with Christ in the book of Chronicles.

4. Elucidate the contents of the book of Acts.

- **Acts of Apostles is the History of church between the Ascension of Jesus Christ and the death of Peter and Paul and an eye witness account how they propagated the Christian faith and the life of the early Christians.**

[1 mark]

- **This book has two parts, first part describes the activities in Jerusalem and nearby places under the leadership of Peter (Chapters 1-12) . whereas the second part outline the activities in places outside Jerusalem under the leadership of Paul (Chapters 13-28). St. Luke has written it as an eye witness account. [1 mark]**

[0.5 marks for each below points]

- **The activities of Peter and Paul are narrated in this book. However, the author has written more about Paul, his preaching and his many journeys.**
- **It is explicitly explained how the gospel has changed the lives of the believers and this in turn brought forth changes in the social structure.**



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The group of believers were one in mind and heart. None of them claimed anything of their own, but shared everything they have had.

- Another noteworthy change written is that the apostles engaged in prayers and preaching. To look after temporal matters they elected helpers who were full of Holy Spirit and wisdom.
- St. Luke reveals another important fact that Christianity took an independent route other than Judaism. The declaration that circumcision, the inviolable rite of Jews, is not necessary for Christians (Jerusalem Synod) makes way for this departure. The Apostles made it clear that more than the bodily circumcision, the purity of heart is more important.
- Likewise, the social practices and rituals of Jews did not find a place in the life of the Christian. The Temple of Jerusalem and its many sacrifices were not pertinent in the Christian life.
- All around we can see that the believers were of one mind and they shared their properties for the common good. It is also can be seen that all disputes were solved then and there by the Holy Synod. A major part of this book describes the persecutions and afflictions suffered by early Christians. The Author describes that in spite of all these the church grew day by day to greater glory, by the power of the Holy Spirit.