



**NT 502 The Early New Testament Church**

Semester 2, 2013

Time allowed: 2 hours

Weighting: This exam is worth 50% of the total semester marks.

All candidates are to be supplied with an unmarked copy of the RSV, NRSV, NIV or ESV.

Answer four questions, two from each section.

All questions are of equal value.

## SECTION A

1. 'And the Word of the Lord grew and multiplied': Discuss this theme in Acts and show how Luke justifies this conclusion at the end of the various phases of the expansion of the early Christian mission in Acts.
2. Discuss the Cornelius incident in the Book of Acts and its implications for the future of the mission of God among the Gentiles in the Book of Acts.
3. 'He appears to be the herald of foreign divinities': How does Paul herald his gospel before the Council of the Areopagus in Luke's summary of his address?
4. Discuss Luke's recordings of the formal hearings in the case of the Jews *versus* Paul in Roman courts and also the outcomes. What does this disclose about the status of early Christianity?
5. Paul's address to the Ephesian elders at Miletus reveals not only his *modus operandi* as a church planter but also a somewhat pessimistic view of his expectations of the Ephesian church. Discuss.

## SECTION B

1. In Galatians, how do Paul's theological arguments relate to his exhortation not to submit to circumcision and his accusation that the agitators only want the Galatians to submit to circumcision in order to avoid persecution?
2. In 1 & 2 Thessalonians, why does Paul go into so much detail about the parousia?
3. What is Paul's purpose in his depiction of Jesus' Lordship in Colossians 1:15–23?
4. Is it likely that the book of Hebrews was written to Christians in Jerusalem during the persecutions of Nero?