

For the exam on grace, you should be able to clearly and succinctly explain and discuss the following.

HUMAN NATURE

- How humans were created (prelapsarian state)
- Relationship of humans to the rest of creation
- Composition of the human person

HUMAN DESTINY

- What God plans for humanity
- How grace operates in the prelapsarian state
- How grace operates after sin
- How grace operates after baptism
- The way the Church communicates grace

THE EFFECT OF SIN

- What sin does to humanity
- The meaning of Original Sin
- The various effects of sin

REDEMPTION

- The meaning of justification
- How we are justified
- Why what we receive in baptism is truly justification but not justification proper

SANTIFICATION

- The meaning of sanctification
- How sanctification occurs
- The role of asceticism in the sanctification process
- The meaning of purgatory

THE LIFE OF GRACE

- What does grace feel like?
- How does grace affect our will?
- The role of the Church in receiving grace
- The role of Mary

THE VARIOUS DIMENSIONS OF GRACE

- Justifying grace and sanctifying grace
- Prevenient grace and subsequent grace
- Operating grace and cooperating grace
- Natural and supernatural
- Habitual grace
- Gratuitous grace

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF GRACE

- Augustine and Pelagius
- Dominicans and Jesuits
- Jansenists
- Rahner, von Balthasar, Barth
- The Social Gospel movement and Liberation theology
- Grace from different Protestant perspectives
- Grace from the Orthodox perspective

PREDESTINATION

- The issues at stake in predestination
- Why the topic is important
- Various perspectives
- The Church's view

MERIT

- Why we use the term "merit"
- How we do and do not merit salvation
- Our freedom and God
- What is the role of the Church in our journey?

OUR GOAL

- What is the goal of human life?
- How does this life relate to the next?
- How do we understand hell?
- What is heaven like?