

# CHRISTOLOGY EXAM THEMES

For the exam, be prepared to speak in detail about the following

## The hope of Israel

- Old Testament prefigurations of Jesus and the messianic expectations in the first century
- The Christological meaning of the paschal lamb, the crossing of the Red Sea, the giving of the law, the ark of the covenant, the building of the temple, the Son of Man in Daniel 7, the suffering servant

## The Person of Jesus

**Discuss how the following heresies contributed to the development of the articulation of Christological dogma**

- Docetism
- Adoptionism
- Sabellianism
- Arianism
- Apollinarianism
- Nestorianism
- Monophysitism
- Monotheletism
- Iconoclasm

## Express or define the following

- Decree of the Council of Ephesus
- Decree of the Council of Nicea
- Decree of the Third Council of Constantinople
- Decree of the Second Council of Nicea
- Hypostatic union
- *Communicatio idiomatum*

## Discuss how Thomas Aquinas approaches the following issues

- The necessity of the incarnation
- How the historical incarnation does not bring about a change in God
- The humanity of Jesus
- The perfection of Jesus
- The knowledge of Jesus
- The sinlessness of Jesus
- The grace of Jesus
- The beatific vision of Jesus
- The body of Jesus
- The prayer of Jesus

## Salvation

Discuss the following approaches to soteriology

- Recapitulation in Irenaeus
- Incarnation in Athanasius
- Deification in Maximus
- Atonement in Anselm
- Salvation in Thomas
- Substitutionary atonement in Luther
- Soteriology expressed at the Council of Trent

## Contemporary Christology

Give the Christological perspectives of the following thinkers or “schools”

- Karl Rahner
- Hans Urs von Balthasar
- Liberation theology
- Christology in response to pluralism
- Feminist Christology