

THEOLOGY 1 EXAM 1 PRACTICE (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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1. What is natural law?

- A. The rational ordinance of creation accessible to human reason about what is good and evil.
- B. A purely supernatural decree.
- C. The law of the land.
- D. Personal preferences not universal.

2. What does grace build on, and provide an example in Christian ethics?

- A. Grace dispenses with natural virtues altogether.
- B. Grace perfects nature, enabling virtuous action beyond natural ability; e.g., grace enabling self-giving love beyond natural generosity.
- C. Grace replaces nature entirely.
- D. Grace makes natural talent unnecessary.

3. What is the Incarnation?

- A. The Word became flesh in Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, for our salvation.
- B. The Word became flesh only as a moral symbol.
- C. Jesus is only human; divinity is a later addition.
- D. The Word became flesh but remained a separate person.

4. How is merit viewed in Catholic teaching regarding justification?

- A. Merit exists and cooperation with grace is possible
- B. Merit is irrelevant
- C. Merit replaces grace
- D. Merit is the sole means of salvation

5. How do the two Genesis creation accounts differ in emphasis?

- A. Genesis 1 emphasizes human relationship with God; Genesis 2 emphasizes orderly creation by command.
- B. Genesis 1 presents orderly creation by divine command; Genesis 2 emphasizes human relationship with God and responsibility.
- C. Genesis 1 focuses on creation of animals; Genesis 2 on creation of the universe.
- D. Genesis 1 and 2 have identical emphases.

- 6. In Catholic theology, which statement best describes Mary's role in relation to worship?**
- A. Worship is given to Mary and the saints, and Mary is honored as mother of Jesus.
 - B. Mary is honored as mother of Jesus and model of faith, while worship is due to God alone.
 - C. Mary is worshiped as the equal of God in some doctrines.
 - D. Mary has no intercessory role and is not venerated.
- 7. Which of the following is NOT listed as an edge of the worship-related diagram?**
- A. To know the world
 - B. To know self
 - C. To know God
 - D. To love the world
- 8. What is a Covenant and why is it significant in Salvation History?**
- A. A contract between nations with political power.
 - B. A sacred, binding agreement between God and humanity with promises and obligations; through covenants (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic, new in Christ) God works toward salvation.
 - C. A ceremonial ritual performed weekly in synagogue.
 - D. A legal code given to Moses only.
- 9. Which statement best describes the role of angels and demons in Christian theology?**
- A. Angels are spiritual beings who serve and worship God and assist humans; demons are fallen angels who oppose God and tempt humans, under God's ultimate authority.
 - B. Angels control weather and fate, demons are mythic beings with no real influence.
 - C. Angels are equal to humans, demons are optional.
 - D. Angels and demons are solely symbolic with no ontological reality.

10. Applied Theology focuses on which question?

- A. What does the Bible say?
- B. How do we apply biblical truth to life?
- C. What has the church said about this topic?
- D. What is the basis of the theological pyramid?

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Answers

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1. A
2. B
3. A
4. C
5. B
6. B
7. C
8. B
9. A
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What is natural law?

- A. The rational ordinance of creation accessible to human reason about what is good and evil.
- B. A purely supernatural decree.
- C. The law of the land.
- D. Personal preferences not universal.

Natural law is the understanding that there is a rational order built into creation that human reason can grasp about what is truly good and what is evil. It comes from reflecting on human nature and the purposes of life, so certain actions are right or wrong because they fulfill or fail to fulfill those purposes. It isn't just something handed down as a purely supernatural command; rather, it's accessible to reason and provides a universal standard that can guide all rational beings, regardless of culture or personal opinion. Civil or positive laws should ideally harmonize with this natural order, but natural law itself isn't identical to the laws of the state. It also stands apart from mere personal preferences, since it claims objective norms that apply to everyone. For example, acts that undermine basic human life or trust—like murder or deceit—are seen as wrong because they violate fundamental goods essential to human flourishing.

2. What does grace build on, and provide an example in Christian ethics?

- A. Grace dispenses with natural virtues altogether.
- B. Grace perfects nature, enabling virtuous action beyond natural ability; e.g., grace enabling self-giving love beyond natural generosity.
- C. Grace replaces nature entirely.
- D. Grace makes natural talent unnecessary.

Grace builds on nature by not removing it but elevating it. It perfects our natural powers, so virtuous acts become possible at a level beyond what we can achieve on our own. For example, grace enables self-giving love that surpasses natural generosity, allowing a person to love and forgive in ways natural effort alone wouldn't sustain. It doesn't replace nature or erase natural talents; rather it completes and directs them toward higher, supernatural ends.

3. What is the Incarnation?

- A. The Word became flesh in Jesus Christ, fully God and fully man, for our salvation.
- B. The Word became flesh only as a moral symbol.
- C. Jesus is only human; divinity is a later addition.
- D. The Word became flesh but remained a separate person.

The Incarnation is the moment the Son of God takes on human nature in Jesus Christ—God the Word becomes flesh, fully divine and fully human. This unites divine and human in one person for our salvation. It isn't just a symbol or a moral example; Jesus is not merely human with divinity added later, nor is he two separate persons sharing one life. He is one person with two natures, divine and human, through which he reveals God to us and accomplishes our redemption through his life, death, and resurrection.

4. How is merit viewed in Catholic teaching regarding justification?

- A. Merit exists and cooperation with grace is possible
- B. Merit is irrelevant
- C. Merit replaces grace**
- D. Merit is the sole means of salvation

Merit in Catholic teaching arises from real cooperation with God's grace. Justification begins with grace, and the believer responds in faith, hope, and charity, allowing good works to flow from that grace. Those works can be meritorious in the sense that they dispose us toward eternal life and reflect growing holiness, but they are not earned apart from grace or as if they replace grace. Salvation remains entirely rooted in God's initiative and the grace given through Christ. So the idea is that merit exists and cooperation with grace is possible, while grace remains primary and indispensable.

5. How do the two Genesis creation accounts differ in emphasis?

- A. Genesis 1 emphasizes human relationship with God; Genesis 2 emphasizes orderly creation by command.
- B. Genesis 1 presents orderly creation by divine command; Genesis 2 emphasizes human relationship with God and responsibility.**
- C. Genesis 1 focuses on creation of animals; Genesis 2 on creation of the universe.
- D. Genesis 1 and 2 have identical emphases.

The main idea here is how the two Genesis creation accounts emphasize different aspects of God's work. Genesis 1 presents an orderly creation brought into being by God's spoken command, highlighting God's sovereignty, power, and the sequence of creation in a cosmic, universal scope. It frames humans as the culmination of God's orderly plan, stressing God's authority over all that exists. Genesis 2, by contrast, shifts to a more intimate focus: the relationship between humans and God and humanity's responsibility within a named, human-scale setting. It emphasizes companionship, stewardship, and obedience within the garden, showing how humans relate to God personally and bear responsibility for tending creation. So the option that captures both emphases—orderly creation by divine command in Genesis 1, and human relationship with God plus responsibility in Genesis 2—is the best choice. The other options misstate the focus, either giving Genesis 1 or Genesis 2 the wrong emphasis or claiming the accounts are identical.

6. In Catholic theology, which statement best describes Mary's role in relation to worship?

A. Worship is given to Mary and the saints, and Mary is honored as mother of Jesus.

B. Mary is honored as mother of Jesus and model of faith, while worship is due to God alone.

C. Mary is worshiped as the equal of God in some doctrines.

D. Mary has no intercessory role and is not venerated.

Worship versus veneration is the main idea. In Catholic teaching, worship (latria) is due to God alone, while veneration (dulia) is given to the saints, with Mary receiving a special reverence called hyperdulia. Mary is honored as the mother of Jesus and as a model of faith, and she can intercede for us with her Son, but she is not worshiped. This aligns with practice such as praying for Mary's intercession and honoring her in devotion, without equating her with God. So the statement that Mary is honored as mother of Jesus and model of faith, while worship is due to God alone, best describes her role. The other options blur or erase the distinction: worship directed to Mary and the saints, or Mary being worshiped as God's equal, or denying Mary's intercessory role and veneration, all conflict with Catholic teaching.

7. Which of the following is NOT listed as an edge of the worship-related diagram?

A. To know the world

B. To know self

C. To know God

D. To love the world

Worship is shown as shaping our relationship outward toward creation and inward toward our own life, with edges that map those directions or effects. The lines or edges connect worship to how we engage the world and ourselves. So edges like knowing the world, knowing self, and loving the world represent the outcomes or directions that worship motivates in us. Knowing God is the anchor and center of worship itself, not an outward directional edge drawn from worship. It's the starting point that grounds the whole diagram, while the edges depict how worship expresses itself in relation to world and self. That's why this option isn't listed as an edge.

8. What is a Covenant and why is it significant in Salvation History?

- A. A contract between nations with political power.
- B. A sacred, binding agreement between God and humanity with promises and obligations; through covenants (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic, new in Christ) God works toward salvation.**
- C. A ceremonial ritual performed weekly in synagogue.
- D. A legal code given to Moses only.

A Covenant is a sacred, binding agreement between God and humanity that includes promises from God and obligations for people. In Salvation History, covenants map how God enters into relationship with his creation and moves salvation forward through time. Each covenant reveals more of God's plan and invites a faithful response. The Abrahamic covenant introduces the pattern: God promises blessings and a people who will bless the nations, contingent on faith. The Mosaic covenant gives the people the law and a chosen identity, showing how they are to live in fidelity to God. The Davidic covenant centers on a king from David's line who will reign with justice and stability, pointing toward a universal, enduring rule. The new covenant, fulfilled in Christ, brings forgiveness of sins and a transformed, Spirit-filled life, completing the arc of promise and making the relationship with God internal and personal. Covenants are significant because they reveal God's faithfulness, establish the path of salvation through history, and shape how humanity responds in faith and obedience. They also show the rhythm of promise and obligation, with outward signs and rituals that point to an inner reality of trust, renewal, and ultimate fulfillment in Christ.

9. Which statement best describes the role of angels and demons in Christian theology?

- A. Angels are spiritual beings who serve and worship God and assist humans; demons are fallen angels who oppose God and tempt humans, under God's ultimate authority.**
- B. Angels control weather and fate, demons are mythic beings with no real influence.
- C. Angels are equal to humans, demons are optional.
- D. Angels and demons are solely symbolic with no ontological reality.

In Christian theology, angels are real created beings who serve and worship God, carrying out His will and often acting as messengers or helpers to humans. Demons are the beings known as fallen angels who rebel against God and tempt people to sin, opposing God's purposes. Yet all of these powers operate under God's ultimate authority; even the demons' activity is allowed within His sovereign plan and is limited by His power. This view captures both the distinct roles—angels as servants and messengers, demons as adversaries and tempters—and the overarching sovereignty of God over all spiritual beings. It also avoids treating angels as mere weather controllers, demons as myth, or humans as their equals, and it affirms that these beings have real, ontological presence in the biblical worldview.

10. Applied Theology focuses on which question?

- A. What does the Bible say?
- B. How do we apply biblical truth to life?**
- C. What has the church said about this topic?
- D. What is the basis of the theological pyramid?

Applied theology is about turning biblical truth into practical guidance for how we live, worship, and minister. It asks how scripture should shape everyday choices, ethics, and how we engage with others and the world. That focus on translating doctrine into action is why this option—the question of how to apply biblical truth to life—is the best fit. The other ideas center on discovering what the Bible says, tracing what the church has taught, or examining a particular framework or model, rather than emphasizing practical application in daily life.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://theology1exam1.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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