

Grace Exam

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

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

Sanctification

- 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 various dimensions of grace

- Uncreated grace and created 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
- Protestant understandings
- Dominicans and Jesuits
- Jansenists
- Rahner and von Balthasar
- Liberation theology

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?