

**BOWEN UNIVERSITY**  
**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL STUDIES**  
**HISTORY AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAMME**

**B.A. SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION 2022/2023 SESSION**

**COURSE CODE: HIS 432                      COURSE CREDITS:2**

**COURSE TITLE: THE BEGINNING OF BAPTIST MISSION WORK IN NIGERIA**

**INSTRUCTION: ANSWER TWO QUESTIONS IN SECTION A, AND TWO IN SECTION B**

**TIME ALLOWED 2<sup>1/2</sup> HRS**

**Section A: CONTEXT QUESTIONS.**

Comment on **Any Two** of the following gobbets (**15 marks each**)

1. “In October 1840, after a long, long period of seeking, I obtained hope in Christ and soon after, was baptized in the name of the adorable trinity. My happiness in those days was more than language can express”  
(T.J. Bowen, *Adventures and Missionary Labors*, 1856)
2. “I did not recognize it [Ijaye] again, although, I had been there twice before. Oh what a desolation! The houses burnt and broken down, nothing remaining but the naked walls, partly fallen down, partly washed down by the heavy rains; the whole town overgrown with bush, thorns and briars; a small single footpath leading from one end so the other... I never saw the work of destruction to (so?) complete. Oh, my heart bled when remembering the trials, hardships, anxieties of God’s servants in this town, how little effect their preaching made, and how now the whole population of between 60,000 and 70,000 is scattered over the whole land in bondage, or without home, and how many died by the sword, how many by famine... Our station, dwelling house, and church, are now a heap of ruins – a perfect wilderness, and so is the station of the Baptists” *Church Missionary Intelligencer*, 1863, p. 92
3. One ... apparent difficulty in the way of Native church-work in Africa, without which it would be an easier task to attack the strongholds of Satan and reap large harvest of souls is Mohammedanism....The Native churches in West Africa have only the Mohammedan for their antagonists in the field of labour.  
(Mojola Agbebi, in *Africa and the Gospel*, p.11)
4. “This was apparently a heavy blow to our mission, not only in Lagos, but in the whole country. But that which in the eyes of men is a calamity is often used of God for the extension of His Kingdom; and thus it proved in this case. This was the beginning of a movement that spread over the whole country, including the other denominations who suffered more than we; for our people continued true to the doctrine of the Baptists, and we were eventually reunited in the convention some years later”.  
(Louis M. Duval, *Baptist Missions in Nigeria*, p. 188)

**Section B: (Essay) Answer Two of the following (20 marks each)**

5. Give an account of the state of affairs in the area that later became known as Nigeria, during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century when the first set of Baptist missionaries arrived.
6. Analyse the life and ministry of Rev and Mrs Thomas Jefferson Bowen, and highlight some lessons you have learnt from the Missionary couple.
7. What were some major challenges faced by the early Baptist Missionaries in Nigeria, and how were these were surmounted?
8. What would you regard as the significant agencies that enhanced the growth of Baptist mission work in Nigeria from the closing decades of the 19th century up to the second half of the twentieth century?
9. “The impact of Baptist Missionary endeavour on the Nigerian society are varied and multifaceted”. Discuss

Prof. O. C, Adesina  
Sgd. 30/5/2023