Take-home portion of Final Exam  RELS 106  
Due by the time of the in-class final exam.

Instructions:
1. Read all the instructions first!

2. For each of the questions below, write a short, typed, essay response. Your paragraph should have an organized argument. Although I give you hints as to what to include, do not just discuss them in order, as if you were answering a list of questions. Take notes on the points you want to make, and then organize them into a logical discussion in your write-up.

3. You may use any and all course materials to prepare your answers. You may not collaborate with each other. You may not use any information outside of course materials.

4. Make sure to use details from the texts to support your points. This could take the form of short quotes or very close paraphrases. If you use quotations, they should be only as long as is needed to support your points—often this will only be a few words at a time. Do not just quote the whole passage, and call it your “support.” In other words, show me that you can pick out the necessary details.

5. Besides details from the text, include background info from lectures and other course materials. (Exception: question #1.) This info must be accurate AND pertinent to your argument. If I have to wade through too much extraneous information, I will start subtracting points.

6. Clearly state the steps in your reasoning.

7. The number of points is a clue to the minimum number of pieces of . . . support from the text and/or support from background info and/or statements of logic or reasoning . . . that you need to complete the analysis

8. You do not need an introductory or concluding paragraph. Just jump into your analysis, and stop when it’s complete. But make sure it follows a logical progression! I DO NOT want to spend time trying to figure out if it makes sense.
3. 14 points
Discuss how the interpretation of Luke 10.25-37 is enlightened by understanding each of the following:

- The geography & the reputation of the road between Jerusalem and Jericho (2 pts)
- The duties of priests AND the meaning of Lev 21.1-6. Include any pertinent background information on priests and the ancient Israelite concepts of “holy,” “clean,” and “unclean.” (~5 pts)
- The history of the relations between the people of Samaria and the people of Judah (Hint: see Lecture Outline on Geography and History of Israel, as well as the Timeline). (~3 pts)
- The connotation of “neighbor” which is apparent in Lev 19.17-18,* and how Jesus ends up changing that meaning. Remember, his audience would have been Jewish. (4pts)

4. 12 points
Explain why a theodicy would not be necessary in each of the contexts below (a-c).

Your discussion should include:

- The definition of theodicy, plus an explanation of this definition in your own words (2 pts)
- A list of the four beliefs that lead to the need for a theodicy, as well as an explanation of why each of these beliefs is necessary for theodicy to become an issue. Why must all of these beliefs be held for theodicy to be an issue? (Hint: it's easiest to figure this out if you ask: what if _____________ (one of the beliefs) was absent? -would theodicy be an issue then? Why not?) (4 pts)
- An analysis of why a theodicy would not be necessary in each of the following contexts (a-c) (hint: for each context, point out one of the four beliefs that are absent from this context; if that belief is absent, then how can suffering be explained?)
  a. In Jewish thought prior to the Babylonian Exile (hint: see Timeline: Contemporaneous Theological Concepts) (1 pt)
  b. God as portrayed in Genesis 2-3 (2 pts)
  c. God as portrayed in Exodus 14 (hint: Read the whole chapter, and refresh your memory as to the larger context of the chapter, but pay particular attention to 14.4, 8, 17, 26-29). (3 pts)