



*Rewarding Learning*

**ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)**  
**General Certificate of Education**  
**January 2011**

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## **Religious Studies**

**Assessment Unit AS 4**

*assessing*

**The Christian Church in the  
Roman Empire: Beginnings, Expansion  
and External Pressure**

**[AR141]**



AR141

**WEDNESDAY 19 JANUARY, AFTERNOON**

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### **TIME**

1 hour 20 minutes.

### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.  
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

The total mark for this paper is 100.  
Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.  
Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

### **ADVICE TO CANDIDATES**

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question or part question.

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## Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A

- 1 (a) Explain how political and geographical factors enabled Christianity to expand successfully in the first three centuries. [35]
- (b) Comment on the claim that other factors were equally important in the rise of Christianity. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Give an account of the main themes in the writings of Ignatius of Antioch. [35]
- (b) Explore the view that early Christian writers are a valuable but limited source of information about the Church in the first two centuries. Justify your answer. [15]

## Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B

- 3 (a) Describe the rise to power and religious policy of the Emperor Constantine. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the claim that religious conversion is always genuine. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Give an account of the persecution which began during the reign of the Emperor Diocletian. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that religious persecution is inevitable. Justify your answer. [15]

