

554/01

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 4**

**An Introduction to the New Testament**

P.M. THURSDAY, 8 June 2006

(1 hour)

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 8 page answer book. You are permitted to use a Bible, which may include the Apocrypha.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

All questions carry 20 marks. The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all questions.

*Answer Question 1 and one other question.*

1.

According to the gospel writers, Jesus often taught in parables. The meaning of these parables is not always clear. Nevertheless, to those who strive to understand them they illustrate some features of the kingdom of God, or some other truth.

- (a) Explain the purposes of parables in the New Testament. [10]
- (b) Examine the meaning of any **two** of Jesus' parables. [10]
2. (a) Explain how different gospel writers seek to show that Jesus was the incarnation of God. [10]
- (b) 'The gospel writers make it more difficult to believe in Jesus with their claim that he was divine.'  
Assess this statement. [10]
3. (a) Outline the events which must happen before the second coming of Christ, according to the passages of the New Testament you have studied. [10]
- (b) 'There will be no second coming of Christ.'  
Assess this view. [10]