



**GCE A level**

1348/04

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**RS3 BS - Studies in Biblical Studies**

A.M. THURSDAY, 31 May 2012

1¾ hours

#### **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

In addition to this examination paper, you will need a 12 page answer book.

**The use of a Bible is NOT permitted.**

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer questions from **one** section only, **either** Section A **or** Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

Write the number of each question you answer both alongside your answer and on the front cover of the answer book.

#### **INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

Each question carries 50 marks.

The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each part-question.

Part (*a*) of each question tests your knowledge and understanding.

Part (*b*) of each question tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.

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

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Assessment will take into account the quality of written communication in all your answers.

*Answer questions from one section, either Section A or Section B.*

**Section A: Studies in the Old Testament**

*Answer two questions.*

1. (a) Explain how the historical-grammatical method of exegesis is applied to the Old Testament. [30]  
(b) 'All that matters about the Old Testament is what it means today.'  
Evaluate this view. [20]
  
2. (a) Explain the Old Testament concepts of God as creator **and** deliverer. [30]  
(b) 'The Old Testament gives more importance to God the deliverer of Israel than to God the creator of the universe.'  
Evaluate this statement. [20]
  
3. (a) Examine the portrayal of Elijah in the biblical passages that you have studied. [30]  
(b) 'The biblical story of Elijah has no relevance today.'  
Assess this view. [20]
  
4. (a) Examine the main themes in the teaching of **either** Jeremiah **or** Ezekiel. [30]  
(b) 'The prophet's teaching was a complete failure.'  
Assess this view with regard to **either** Jeremiah **or** Ezekiel. [20]

**Section B: Studies in the New Testament**

*Answer two questions.*

1. (a) Outline the main themes of Acts 1:1 – 6:7. [30]  
(b) ‘The early Christian community was united only in worship.’  
Assess this view. [20]
  
2. (a) Examine the teaching in Peter’s sermons in the Book of Acts. [30]  
(b) ‘Peter’s sermons in the Book of Acts are not his words.’  
Assess this view. [20]
  
3. (a) Examine Paul’s teaching on the inclusion of Gentiles in the Church. [30]  
(b) ‘The Church’s mission to the Gentiles would have failed without Paul.’  
Evaluate this statement. [20]
  
4. (a) Examine the New Testament teaching on divorce. [30]  
(b) ‘The New Testament’s teaching on divorce is more important than its teaching on marriage.’  
Assess this view. [20]