



**GCE AS/A level**

**1344/01**

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES – RS1/2 BS**

**Introduction to Biblical Studies**

**A.M. THURSDAY, 14 May 2015**

**1 hour 15 minutes plus your additional time allowance**

## **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

**In addition to this examination paper, you will need an 8 page answer book.**

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

## **INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**Use black ink, black ball-point pen or your usual method.**

**Answer TWO 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 45 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 TWO questions from ONE section only, EITHER Section A OR Section B.**

**SECTION A: INTRODUCTION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT**

**Answer TWO questions.**

- 1(a) Examine the main characteristics of Old Testament prophecy. [30]**
- (b) ‘Old Testament prophecy has no relevance today.’  
Assess this view. [15]**
- 2(a) Examine the effects of the Exile on Israel’s religion. [30]**
- (b) ‘The Exile taught Israel to reach out to other nations.’  
Assess this statement. [15]**

- 3(a) Explain the difference between a conditional Old Testament covenant and an unconditional Old Testament covenant. [30]**
- (b) 'The Exile proved that God had cancelled all covenants.'**  
**Assess this view. [15]**
- 4(a) Explain how the Old Testament set up David as a role model for kings. [30]**
- (b) 'Israel's early monarchy was a failure.'**  
**Assess this statement with reference to Saul, David and Solomon. [15]**

**SECTION B: INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT**

**Answer TWO questions.**

- 1(a) Examine the key themes in Luke's narrative of the events surrounding the births of John the Baptist and Jesus. [30]**
- (b) 'Luke's Birth Narrative cannot be trusted.' Assess this view. [15]**
- 2(a) Describe how the Parable of the Sower is interpreted to the disciples in Mark's Gospel. [30]**
- (b) 'The Parable of the Sower and its interpretation reflect who Jesus was.' Assess this statement. [15]**

- 3(a) Examine the key features of miracles with reference to the Feeding of the Five Thousand. [30]**
- (b) 'The accounts of the miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand are too similar to be true.' Assess this statement. [15]**
- 4(a) Explain how the New Testament develops Jewish ideas of resurrection. [30]**
- (b) 'Paul's teaching on the resurrection is clear.' Assess this view. [15]**

**END OF PAPER**