



GCE A level

1348/04

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – RS3 BS

STUDIES IN BIBLICAL STUDIES

P.M. WEDNESDAY, 10 June 2015

1 hour 45 minutes plus your additional time allowance

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, 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 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 only, EITHER Section A OR Section B.

SECTION A: STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Answer TWO questions.

- 1(a) Explain how source criticism is applied to Old Testament texts. [30]**
- (b) ‘Source criticism enhances our reading of the Old Testament.’
Evaluate this view. [20]**
- 2(a) Explore the different concepts of God in the Old Testament. [30]**
- (b) ‘Old Testament concepts of God are irrelevant today.’
Evaluate the validity of this statement. [20]**

3(a) Examine similarities and differences between the prophets Elijah and Elisha. [30]

**(b) 'The eighth century prophets were completely different from Elijah and Elisha.'
Assess this view. [20]**

4(a) Examine the message of EITHER Jeremiah OR Ezekiel against its historical background. [30]

**(b) 'The prophet was more concerned with the nation than with individuals.'
Assess this view with regard to EITHER Jeremiah OR Ezekiel. [20]**

SECTION B: STUDIES IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Answer TWO questions.

- 1(a) Examine the worship practices of the early Christian community in Jerusalem. [30]**
- (b) 'The early Christian community was a united community.'**
Assess this view. [20]
- 2(a) Examine Peter's teaching on the resurrection in his sermons in the Book of Acts. [30]**
- (b) 'Peter's sermons in the Book of Acts were written by Luke.'**
Assess this view. [20]

- 3(a) Examine the role of the apostles in the New Testament church. [30]**
- (b) 'The New Testament church had a three-fold ministry.'
Evaluate this statement. [20]**
- 4(a) Examine Jesus' teaching on divorce in the passages that you have studied. [30]**
- (b) 'Jesus' teaching on divorce is irrelevant today.'
Assess this view. [20]**

END OF PAPER