



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
January 2010

Religious Studies

RSS07

Unit G New Testament

Wednesday 13 January 2010 9.00 am to 10.15 am

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer book.
- You may use a Bible that includes the Apocrypha.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is RSS07.
- Answer **two** questions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- In each question, part (a) tests your knowledge and understanding, while part (b) tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Answer **two** questions.

- 1 (a) Examine the reasons why the stories about Jesus were committed to writing. (30 marks)
- (b) ‘Given the time gap between the events in the life of Jesus and the time that the gospels were written down, there is good reason to doubt the accuracy of the accounts.’

To what extent do you agree with this claim? (15 marks)

- 2 (a) Explain the purpose of parables, with reference to any **one** parable in the synoptic gospels. (30 marks)

- (b) ‘Out of context, the parables cannot be understood.’

Assess this claim. (15 marks)

- 3 (a) Examine the main differences between Matthew’s and Luke’s accounts of Jesus’ crucifixion and death. (30 marks)

- (b) ‘There is no satisfactory explanation for the differences between Matthew’s and Luke’s accounts of Jesus’ crucifixion and death.’

Assess this claim. (15 marks)

- 4 (a) Examine scholars’ views of the theological message of Jesus’ resurrection. (30 marks)

- (b) ‘The gospel accounts of the resurrection appearances of Jesus are historical rather than symbolic.’

To what extent do you agree with this claim? (15 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS