

**OXFORD CAMBRIDGE AND RSA EXAMINATIONS**

**Advanced GCE**

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**2792**

Connections in Religious Studies (Routes C, D, J, K, P, S)

Wednesday **29 JUNE 2005** Afternoon 1 hour 30 minutes

Candidates answer on the separate answer paper provided.

Additional materials:

Answer paper

**TIME** 1 hour 30 minutes

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

- Write your name, Centre number and candidate number in the spaces provided on the answer paper/answer booklet.
- Answer **two** questions, both chosen from the Route for which you have been prepared.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, on the separate answer paper provided.
- If you use more than one sheet of paper, fasten the sheets together.
- Write the number of each question attempted in the grid on the front of the answer booklet.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

- Each question carries 60 marks.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 120.
- You will be awarded marks for the quality of your written communication in both answers.

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**This question paper consists of 3 printed pages and 1 blank page.**

Answer **two** questions, both chosen from the Route for which you have been prepared.

**Route C – Philosophy of Religion with New Testament**

- 1 'The New Testament texts suggest that conversion is by far the most significant type of religious experience.' Discuss with reference to the texts you have studied.
- 2 To what extent can the miracle stories of the New Testament withstand the criticism of miracle made by Hume? Discuss with reference to the texts you have studied.
- 3 'The New Testament texts cannot be the inspired word of God, because they are not historically accurate.' Discuss with reference to the texts you have studied.

**Route D – Philosophy of Religion with Developments in Christian Thought**

- 4 Discuss critically the belief that resurrection is only for those who explicitly claim faith in Christ.
- 5 'The idea that there is evil in the world to help us grow and develop in faith is rejected by Liberation Theology.' Discuss.
- 6 'Feminist theology strongly supports the view that the Christian religion is an invention of society.' Discuss.

**Route J – Religious Ethics with New Testament**

- 7 'The ethics of the New Testament are completely absolutist.' Discuss with reference to the texts you have studied.
- 8 'New Testament teaching agrees with Virtue Ethics that the character of the agent is more important than the action performed.' Discuss with reference to the texts you have studied.
- 9 'The New Testament principle of agape is a better guide to ethical decision-making than the Utilitarian principle of happiness.' Discuss.

**Route K – Ethics with Development in Christian Thought**

- 10 'Black theology has nothing in common with Kantian ethics.' Discuss.
- 11 'If everyone goes to heaven in the end, then there is no point in behaving morally.' Discuss.
- 12 'Liberation theology teaches that it is acceptable to sacrifice the interests of the minority in favour of achieving happiness for the majority.' Discuss.

**Route P – Jewish Scriptures with New Testament**

- 13 Compare and contrast the ways in which the Jewish scriptures and the New Testament texts you have studied deal with the concept of a chosen people.
- 14 'The Jewish scriptures present God as a moral law-giver, whereas the New Testament teaches that people should apply the principle of agape and behave in whichever way they think is best.' Discuss with reference to the texts you have studied.
- 15 'The Jewish scriptures and the New Testament texts both show that God is revealed to humanity primarily through the words of the prophets.' Discuss.

**Route S – New Testament with Developments in Christian Thought**

- 16 'It is completely inappropriate to use the New Testament as a guide for determining the behaviour of women in the twenty-first century.' Discuss.
- 17 'The New Testament has nothing to say about black people and black issues.' Discuss.
- 18 'It is impossible to accept the teachings of the New Testament and not accept Liberation Theology.' Discuss.

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