

553/02

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 3b**

**An Introduction to the Old Testament**

A.M. TUESDAY, 17 January 2006

(1 hour)

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS**

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

You are permitted to use a Bible, which may include the Apocrypha.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

**INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES**

All questions carry 20 marks. The number of marks is given in brackets at the end of each question or part-question.

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

All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Quality of Written Communication will be assessed in all questions.

Answer **Question 1** and **one other question**.

1.

The Israelite idea of covenant developed through several stages. This is reflected in the Old Testament by stories of God making a covenant with several individuals – Noah, Abraham, Moses and David. In each case the covenant is slightly different.

- (a) Examine *the Israelite idea of covenant*. [10]
- (b) Explain the importance of the covenant with Abraham. [10]
2. (a) Explain the purpose of any **two** different types of literature (other than history) found in the Old Testament. [10]
- (b) ‘If the Old Testament is not all history, it has no real religious authority.’  
Assess this view. [10]
3. (a) Describe briefly **three** important events or episodes found in the biblical account of the Exodus **and** explain their importance. [10]
- (b) ‘The Exodus was a turning-point in the religion of the Hebrews.’  
Assess this view. [10]