

554/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 4

An Introduction to The New 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 story of Jesus' birth is told by only two of the four gospel writers (Matthew and Luke), and the two accounts differ. They both agree, however, that his birth involved supernatural elements, and that this was no ordinary child.

- (a) Explain in what ways the *two* gospel *accounts* of Jesus' birth *differ*. [10]
- (b) Examine the *supernatural* elements that were involved in Jesus' birth. [10]
2. (a) Describe, with examples, the characteristics of apocalyptic literature in the New Testament. [10]
- (b) 'New Testament apocalyptic literature has no meaning for people today.'
Assess this view. [10]
3. (a) Examine the main differences between the gospel accounts of the resurrection of Jesus. [10]
- (b) 'A Christian does not have to believe in the resurrection of Jesus.'
Assess this statement. [10]