



**General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Subsidiary/Advanced**

553/02

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES RS 3b  
An Introduction to the Old  
Testament**

A.M. WEDNESDAY, 16 January 2008  
(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 covenant is an important feature in the Old Testament account of the history of Israel. It is a unique concept. Although its form may reflect Hittite suzerainty treaties, its nature emphasises the special relationship between the Israelites and their God. The Old Testament describes the covenant with Noah, Abraham, Moses and David, as well as others. From these various accounts of the covenant we can learn about the Israelites – their traditions and circumstances. We can also learn about their God – what the Hebrews thought he was like.

- (a) Examine the nature and form of the Israelite covenant. [10]
- (b) Outline what can be learnt *about the Israelites* and *about their God* from the major Old Testament accounts of the covenant. [10]
2. (a) Describe and illustrate the characteristics of Old Testament prophetic literature. [10]
- (b) ‘It is easy to distinguish different types of literature in the Old Testament.’ Assess this claim. [10]
3. (a) Examine possible reasons for the introduction of kingship in Israel. [10]
- (b) Assess whether Saul or Solomon did more for Israel. [10]