



GCE AS/A level

1344/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RS1/2 BS - Introduction to Biblical Studies

A.M. WEDNESDAY, 12 January 2011

1¼ hours

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

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

The use of a Bible is NOT permitted.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Use black ink or black ball-point pen.

Answer questions from one section only, **either** Section A **or** Section B.

Write your answers in the separate answer book provided.

Write the number of each question you answer both alongside your answer and on the front cover of the answer book.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Each question carries 45 marks.

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

Part *(a)* of each question tests your knowledge and understanding.

Part *(b)* of each question tests your skills of reasoning and evaluation.

You are reminded of the need for good English and orderly, clear presentation in your answers. All questions should be answered in continuous prose. Assessment will take into account the quality of written communication in all your answers.

Answer questions from one section only, either Section A or Section B.

Section A: Introduction to the Old Testament (AS)

Answer two questions

1. (a) Explain the purposes of Old Testament prophecy. [30]
(b) 'The prophets of Israel did not foretell future events.'
Assess this view. [15]

2. (a) Examine the events that led to the Exile in Babylon. [30]
(b) 'The causes of the Babylonian Exile were political, not religious.'
Assess this statement. [15]

3. (a) Describe the form and sign of the Old Testament covenants that you have studied. [30]
(b) 'The Old Testament covenants were invalidated by the Exile.'
Assess this statement. [15]

4. (a) Describe how Saul came to be the first king of Israel. [30]
(b) 'The biblical accounts of how Saul became king are biased against Saul.'
Assess this view. [15]

Section B: Introduction to the New Testament (AS)

Answer two questions

1. (a) Examine the key features of Matthew's Birth Narrative. [30]
(b) 'Matthew's Birth Narrative of Jesus was written only for the Jews.'
Assess this view. [15]

2. (a) Explain the Parable of the Sower. [30]
(b) 'The parables reflect Jesus' divinity.'
Assess this statement. [15]

3. (a) Examine the miracle of the Feeding of the Five Thousand. [30]
(b) 'Nature miracles prove that Jesus was the Son of God.'
Assess this statement. [15]

4. (a) Examine Paul's interpretation of the resurrection in 1 Corinthians 15. [30]
(b) 'Paul's teaching on the resurrection body is confused.'
Assess this view. [15]