



GCE AS/A level

1344/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES – RS1/2 BS
Introduction to Biblical Studies

A.M. MONDAY, 13 May 2013

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 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

Answer two questions.

1. (a) Describe the Old Testament apocalyptic literature that you have studied. [30]
(b) ‘Old Testament apocalyptic literature has no meaning in the modern world.’
Assess this view. [15]

2. (a) Describe the causes of the Exile. [30]
(b) ‘The Exile made the Jews more outward-looking.’
Assess this statement. [15]

3. (a) Outline the form and sign of each of the four Old Testament covenants. [30]
(b) ‘The Old Testament covenants have no significance today.’
Assess this statement. [15]

4. (a) Examine the main events of the reign of David. [30]
(b) ‘David was not a worthy model for a king.’
Assess this view. [15]

Section B: Introduction to the New Testament

Answer two questions.

1. (a) Examine the supernatural elements in the Birth Narratives of Jesus. [30]
(b) 'The Virgin Birth is a myth.'
Assess this view. [15]

2. (a) Examine the types of parables that Jesus used. [30]
(b) 'The parables are no more than the ethical teaching of a good man.'
Assess this statement. [15]

3. (a) Examine the key features of the miracles of Jesus. [30]
(b) 'The miracles prove that Jesus was the Messiah.'
Assess this statement. [15]

4. (a) Examine John's account of the crucifixion of Jesus. [30]
(b) 'It would be better if the story of Jesus ended with his crucifixion.'
Assess this view. [15]