

Oxford, Cambridge and RSA Examinations
General Certificate of Secondary Education

RELIGIOUS STUDIES A (WORLD RELIGIONS) (SHORT COURSE) 2391/1
PAPER 1 – Christianity through a Study of *either* Luke *or* Mark

Specimen Paper 2003

Additional materials: Answer paper
Candidates answer on the answer paper.

TIME 1 hour

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

- Answer questions from only **one** section.
- If you have studied Section A (Luke): Answer question 1 and **one** other question from Section A.
If you have studied Section B (Mark): Answer question 5 and **one** other question from Section B.
- Write your answers, in blue or black ink, in the spaces provided on the question paper.
- Read each question carefully and make sure you know what you have to do before starting your answer.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

- The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.
- The total number of marks for this paper is 43.
- You will be awarded up to 3 marks in Question 1 (Section A) or Question 5 (Section B) for the quality of Written Communication.

SECTION A

LUKE

Answer question 1 and **one** other question from this section.

1



- (a) Describe the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, including the visit of the shepherds. [8]
- (b) Explain why the stories of the birth of Jesus are important to Christians today. [7]
- (c) 'Only Christians should celebrate Christmas.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

- 2 (a) Describe the temptations of Jesus in the desert and show how each temptation was a test for Jesus. [8]
- (b) Explain how Christians today might use the story of the temptation of Jesus to resist temptations in their own life. [7]
- (c) 'A Christian life is a good life but too strict for most people.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

- 3 (a) Give an account of the Parable of the Sower. [8]
- (b) Explain how this teaching might influence Christians today. [7]
- (c) 'Reading Luke's gospel will change people's lives.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

- 4 (a) Describe the events of Pentecost. [8]
- (b) Explain why the Holy Spirit is important to Christians. [7]
- (c) 'The Holy Spirit is the only guide Christians need.'

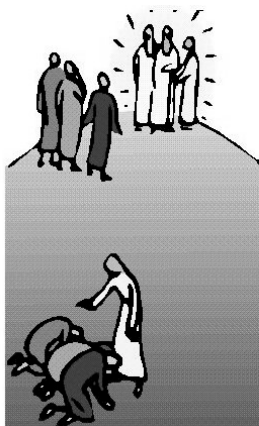
Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

SECTION B

MARK

Answer question 5 and **one** other question from this section.

5



(a) Describe the Transfiguration of Jesus. [8]

(b) Explain how and why the story of the suffering and death of Jesus might influence Christians today. [7]

(c) 'Mark's gospel shows Jesus to be a very different kind of leader (Messiah) from the one the Jews expected.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

6 (a) Give an account of the Parable of the Sower. [8]

(b) Explain how this teaching might influence Christians today. [7]

(c) 'Reading Mark's gospel will change people's lives.'

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

7 (a) Describe the event in which Jesus was asked about the greatest commandment, and the answer he gave. [8]

(b) Explain how the teaching Jesus gave in answer to this question might influence the behaviour of Christians today. [7]

(c) 'It is impossible for ordinary people to do what Jesus said, so there is no point in trying'.

Do you agree? Give reasons to support your answer and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

- 8 (a) Describe **two** occasions in Mark's gospel when Jesus taught about giving money to the poor. [8]
- (b) Explain how these occasions might influence Christians today. [7]
- (c) 'It is wrong to spend money on churches; Christians should give it all to the poor.'
- Do you agree? Give reasons to support your opinion and show that you have thought about different points of view. [5]

