



GCE AS/A level

1344/01

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

RS1/2 BS - Introduction to Biblical Studies

A.M. TUESDAY, 17 January 2012

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

All questions carry 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) Explain the characteristics of Old Testament apocalyptic literature. [30]
(b) 'Apocalyptic literature is simply prophecy by another name.'
Assess this view. [15]

2. (a) Outline the main events of the Exodus. [30]
(b) 'The Exodus definitely occurred during the reign of Rameses II.'
Assess this statement. [15]

3. (a) Examine the covenant with Abraham. [30]
(b) 'The Babylonian Exile showed that the covenant with Abraham was no longer valid.'
Assess this statement. [15]

4. (a) Examine Samuel's influence on the early Hebrew monarchy. [30]
(b) 'Israel's early monarchy was a failure.'
Assess this statement. [15]

Section B: Introduction to the New Testament

Answer two questions.

1. (a) Explain the concept of the Logos in John's Gospel. [30]
(b) 'John introduces Jesus in a more acceptable way than do Matthew and Luke.'
Assess this view. [15]

2. (a) Explain the Parable of the Great Banquet. [30]
(b) 'Jesus did not intend his listeners to understand his parables.'
Assess this statement. [15]

3. (a) Examine the miracle of the Healing of the Centurion's Servant. [30]
(b) 'Miracles are the least important aspect of Jesus' ministry.'
Assess this statement. [15]

4. (a) Examine Matthew's account of the crucifixion of Jesus. [30]
(b) 'The death of Jesus is far more significant than his resurrection.'
Assess this view. [15]