

REVISED STANDARD VERSION

- 1 Comment on points of interest or difficulty in **four** of the following passages (wherever possible answers should refer to the context of the passage but should not retell the story from which the passage is taken). [25 marks]
- (a) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net which was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind; when it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad. (Matthew 13:47–48)
- (b) I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. (Matthew 16:19)
- (c) Taking her by the hand he said to her, “Talitha cumi”; which means, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.” And immediately the girl got up and walked (she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. (Mark 5:41–42)
- (d) Now when he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. She went and told those that had been with him, as they mourned and wept. (Mark 16:9–10)
- (e) ... it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may know the truth concerning the things of which you have been informed. (Luke 1:3–4)
- (f) And they went on to another village. As they were going along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man has nowhere to lay his head.” (Luke 9:56–58)
- (g) Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” (John 1:45–46)
- (h) And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him; you know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you. (John 14:16–17)

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

- 1 Comment on points of interest or difficulty in **four** of the following passages (wherever possible answers should refer to the context of the passage but should not retell the story from which the passage is taken). [25 marks]
- (a) Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. (Matthew 13:47–48)
- (b) I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. (Matthew 16:19)
- (c) He took her by the hand and said to her, “*Talitha koum!*” (which means, “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”). Immediately the girl stood up and walked around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. (Mark 5:41–42)
- (d) When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons. She went and told those who had been with him and who were mourning and weeping. (Mark 16:9–10)
- (e) Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught. (Luke 1:3–4)
- (f) ... and they went to another village. As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” Jesus replied, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” (Luke 9:56–58)
- (g) Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”
“Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked.
“Come and see,” said Philip. (John 1:45–46)
- (h) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever – the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. (John 14:16–17)

- 2 How far was Matthew's gospel intended to be a book of instruction for early Christians?
- 3 'Matthew's presentation of the parables of Jesus is distinctive.' Discuss.
- 4 'The account of Jesus' life in Mark's gospel is dominated by the need to explain his suffering and death.' Discuss.
- 5 Examine the view that Mark's gospel was written by someone who knew Peter.
- 6 To what extent does Luke's gospel provide distinctive teaching about the Kingdom of God?
- 7 Examine Luke's portrayal of the different roles of women in his gospel.
- 8 Assess the various arguments for the authorship of John's gospel.
- 9 Discuss the view that John presents his readers with a more spiritual gospel in which the deeper meanings lie beneath the surface of the story told.
- 10 Assess the view that it is impossible to understand the gospels without a thorough knowledge of their Jewish context.
- 11 To what extent can it be shown that the narratives of the baptism and transfiguration of Jesus should be treated together as key events in the gospel story?
- 12 Using examples, explain why scholars find Jesus' ethical teaching very difficult to interpret.
- 13 To what extent can it be argued that there is a literary relationship between the gospels?
- 14 Explain the differences between the ways the gospel writers treat the crucifixion, death and burial of Jesus.

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