



Cambridge O Level

BIBLICAL STUDIES

2035/12

Paper 1 The Portrayal of God in the Bible

May/June 2025

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions in total:
Section A: answer **one** question.
Section B: answer **two** questions.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].


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This document has 4 pages.

Section A

Answer **one** question. Answer all parts of the chosen question.

EITHER

1 (a) Read the following passage and then answer the questions:

Genesis 17:9–10, NRSVA

God said to Abraham, ‘As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised.’

- (i) Give Abraham’s name before God made the covenant with him. [1]
- (ii) State how old God said that males should be when they are circumcised. [1]
- (iii) Describe what God said to Abraham about Sarai. [4]

(b) Explain the importance of the covenant with Abraham in God’s overall plan for humanity. [6]

(c) ‘A God of love should not need to make covenants with his people.’ Discuss. [8]

[Total: 20]

OR

2 (a) Read the following passage and then answer the questions:

Jonah 3:4, NRSVA

Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, ‘Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!'

- (i) State what the people of Nineveh did when they heard this message and believed God. [2]
- (ii) Describe the proclamation that the king made in Nineveh. [4]

(b) Explain possible reasons why Jonah became angry with God. [6]

(c) Assess the view that God will always change his mind when people pray. [8]

[Total: 20]

Section B

Answer **two** questions. Answer all parts of the chosen two questions.

3 (a) Outline God's instructions to Moses after he had revealed his name, **and** state what God said about how the elders of Israel would respond. [6]

(b) Explain the importance of Moses for Christians today. [6]

(c) 'Christians should never use force to liberate people in need.' Discuss. [8]

[Total: 20]

4 (a) Outline Paul's teaching about the message of the cross in 1 Corinthians. [6]

(b) Explain how Paul's audience in Corinth might have understood this teaching. [6]

(c) To what extent is Paul's teaching about the message of the cross relevant to Christians today? [8]

[Total: 20]

5 (a) Describe Peter's vision when he was in Joppa. [6]

(b) Explain why this vision was significant to the early church. [6]

(c) Assess the view that this vision has nothing to teach modern-day Christians. [8]

[Total: 20]

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