



Cambridge O Level

BIBLICAL STUDIES

2035/22

Paper 2 The Portrayal of Jesus in the Synoptic Gospels

October/November 2024

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. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

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

EITHER

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

Luke 2:46–47, NRSVA

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

- (i) State which festival Jesus and his parents had attended in Jerusalem. [1]
- (ii) State why Jesus' parents were searching for him. [1]
- (iii) Describe what happened after Jesus' parents found him. [4]
- (b) Explain the importance of the temple in first-century Judaism. [6]
- (c) Assess the view that this event from the boyhood of Jesus shows him to be the Son of God. [8]

[Total: 20]

OR

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

Mark 4:3–4, NRSVA

'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up.'

- (i) State the types of ground on which the other seeds fell. [3]
- (ii) State what the seed represents in the parable of the sower. [1]
- (iii) What did Jesus tell the disciples about the purpose of parables? [2]
- (b) Explain the meaning of the parable of the sower. [6]
- (c) To what extent is Jesus' explanation needed to understand the parable of the sower? [8]

[Total: 20]

Section B

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

3 (a) Give an account of the death of Jesus on the cross at three in the afternoon. [6]

(b) Explain the significance of the events that happened when Jesus died on the cross. [6]

(c) Discuss the view that, for Christians, Jesus' resurrection is more important than his death. [8]

[Total: 20]

4 (a) Describe the healing of a crippled woman on the Sabbath **and** the controversy it caused. [6]

(b) Explain why there was conflict between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders about the Sabbath laws. [6]

(c) 'The Christian Sabbath (Sunday) has no relevance for Christians today.' Discuss. [8]

[Total: 20]

5 (a) Outline Jesus' teaching in Luke's Gospel about perseverance in prayer. [6]

(b) Explain why this teaching might encourage Christians to believe in the power of prayer. [6]

(c) Discuss the view that prayers are more sincere when said in private. [8]

[Total: 20]

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