



Cambridge International AS & A Level

BIBLICAL STUDIES

9484/01

Paper 1 The Four Gospels

For examination from 2023

SPECIMEN PAPER

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **five** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer **three** questions.
 - Section B: answer Question 5.
 - Section C: answer **one** question.
- 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 50.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [].

This document has 4 pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **three** of the following four questions.

Answers should refer to the context of the passage wherever possible. Answers should not retell the story from which the passage is taken.

- 1 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

Matthew 1:22–23, NRSVA

All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel’,
which means, ‘God is with us.’

[5]

- 2 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

Matthew 5:39–41, NRSVA

But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile.

[5]

- 3 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

Mark 9:7–8, NRSVA

Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!’ Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

[5]

- 4 Outline points of interest or difficulty in the following passage.

Luke 19:8–9, NRSVA

Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, ‘Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.’ Then Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham.’

[5]

[Total: 15]

Section B

Answer Question 5.

- 5 Read the following passage and then answer the question below:

Mark 4:2–11, NRSVA

He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: '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. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.' And he said, 'Let anyone with ears to hear listen!'

When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. And he said to them, 'To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables;

Discuss whether or not parables were the best way for Jesus to teach. Refer to the passage above and other passages you have studied in your answer. [10]

Section C

Answer **EITHER** Question 6 **OR** Question 7.

EITHER

- 6 (a) Examine the different beliefs about the identity of Jesus expressed in Mark's account of the conversation on the way to Caesarea Philippi, ending with Jesus' rebuke of Peter. [10]
- (b) 'Son of Man was a better title for Jesus than Messiah.' Evaluate this statement. [15]

OR

- 7 (a) Examine similarities and differences between Mark's and John's accounts of Jesus' trial before Pilate. [10]
- (b) 'John's account of the trial before Pilate shows that Jesus was the one in control of what happened.' Evaluate this statement. [15]

[Total: 25]

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