



Cambridge International AS & A Level

BIBLICAL STUDIES

9484/12

Paper 1 The Four Gospels

October/November 2023

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 27:1–2; NRSVA

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor. [5]

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

Mark 6:2–3; NRSVA

On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. [5]

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

Luke 2:39–40; NRSVA

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him. [5]

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

Luke 24:4–5; NRSVA

While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. [5]

Section B

Answer Question 5.

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

John 8:2-11 NRSVA

Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, 'Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?' They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, 'Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.' And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus straightened up and said to her, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' She said, 'No one, sir.' And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.'

Discuss how and why Jesus' ministry included those who were marginalised. Refer to the passage above and other passages you have studied. [10]

Section C

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

EITHER

- 6 (a) Examine the birth narratives in Matthew's Gospel. [10]
 (b) Analyse how Jesus' understanding of messiahship differed from Jewish expectations. [15]

OR

- 7 (a) Examine similarities and differences between the accounts of Jesus' baptism found in the Gospels of Matthew and Mark. [10]
 (b) 'The temptation narratives reveal only Jesus' humanity.' Evaluate this statement. [15]

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