



Cambridge International AS & A Level

BIBLICAL STUDIES

9484/32

Paper 3 Prophets of the Old Testament

October/November 2023

1 hour 30 minutes



You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **four** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer **two** questions.
 - Section B: answer Question 4.
 - 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 **two** of the following three 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.

2 Samuel 7:1–3, NRSVA

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you.' [5]

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

1 Kings 17:8–11, NRSVA

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.' So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, 'Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.' As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, 'Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.' [5]

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

Isaiah 42:1–4, NRSVA

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
 my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
 I have put my spirit upon him;
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.
 He will not cry or lift up his voice,
 or make it heard in the street;
 a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.
 He will not grow faint or be crushed
 until he has established justice in the earth;
 and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

[5]

Section B

Answer Question 4.

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

Amos 4:1–3, NRSVA

Hear this word, you cows of Bashan
 who are on Mount Samaria,
 who oppress the poor, who crush the needy,
 who say to their husbands, 'Bring something to drink!'
 The Lord GOD has sworn by his holiness:
 The time is surely coming upon you,
 when they shall take you away with hooks,
 even the last of you with fish-hooks.
 Through breaches in the wall you shall leave,
 each one straight ahead;
 and you shall be flung out into Harmon,
 says the LORD.

'Amos' condemnation of the social and religious sins of Israel was too strong to be effective.' Assess this claim, referring to the passage above and other passages you have studied. [15]

Section C

Answer **EITHER** Question 5 **OR** Question 6.

EITHER

- 5 'Nathan's criticisms of David over his affair with Bathsheba were justified.' Assess this view. [25]

OR

- 6 'Jeremiah's criticisms of false prophets were pointless, since the people had no reason to believe him rather than those he criticised.' Assess this claim. [25]

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