
RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

2048/23

Paper 2 The portrayal of the birth of the early church

May/June 2015

1 hour 30 minutes

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer any **four** questions.

Where there are differences in quotations from the Bible,

NIV indicates New International Version,

RSV indicates Revised Standard Version.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.



This document consists of **3** printed pages, **1** blank page and **1** insert.

Answer any **four** questions.

- 1 (a) Give an account of a healing miracle performed by
- (i) Peter and John, **and**
 - (ii) Paul. [6]
- (b) Explain the different ways in which people reacted to healing miracles in the Acts of the Apostles. [6]
- (c) 'The miracles in the Acts of the Apostles are literally true and happened as recorded.'
- To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. [8]
- 2 (a) Give an account of what happened when Ananias and Sapphira met Peter. [6]
- (b) Explain what could be learnt about life in the early church from the Acts of the Apostles. [6]
- (c) 'The spread of the early church only happened because of persecution.'
- To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. [8]
- 3 (a) Give an account of what happened to Saul (Paul) in Damascus following his experience on the Damascus road. [6]
- (b) Explain the events that
- (i) led Paul to go to Troas, **and**
 - (ii) caused him to leave almost immediately. [6]
- (c) 'Paul took his message to the Gentiles rather than to the Jews.'
- To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. [8]

- 4 (a) Give an account of what happened at Paphos on Paul's first missionary journey. [6]
- (b) Explain what could be learnt about John Mark from the Acts of the Apostles. [6]
- (c) 'The first missionary journey was a great success.'
- To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. [8]
- 5 (a) Give an account of the debate at the Council of Jerusalem up until the point when James made a judgement. [6]
- (b) Explain the content of the letter which was sent out to the whole church following the debate. [6]
- (c) 'The early church was full of tensions and disputes.'
- To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. [8]
- 6 (a) Give an account of what happened when
- (i) Jason was brought in front of the city officials at Thessalonica, **and**
- (ii) Paul was brought in front of Gallio, the proconsul, in Corinth. [6]
- (b) Explain why the early Christians met so much opposition from some of the Jews. [6]
- (c) 'According to the Acts of the Apostles, the civil authorities (e.g. magistrates, city leaders) were friends rather than persecutors of the early Christians.'
- To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. [8]

BLANK PAGE

Permission to reproduce items where third-party owned material protected by copyright is included has been sought and cleared where possible. Every reasonable effort has been made by the publisher (UCLES) to trace copyright holders, but if any items requiring clearance have unwittingly been included, the publisher will be pleased to make amends at the earliest possible opportunity.

To avoid the issue of disclosure of answer-related information to candidates, all copyright acknowledgements are reproduced online in the Cambridge International Examinations Copyright Acknowledgements Booklet. This is produced for each series of examinations and is freely available to download at www.cie.org.uk after the live examination series.

Cambridge International Examinations is part of the Cambridge Assessment Group. Cambridge Assessment is the brand name of University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES), which is itself a department of the University of Cambridge.