
RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

2048/12

Paper 1 The portrayal of the life and teaching of Jesus

May/June 2016

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 80

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2016 series for most Cambridge IGCSE[®], Cambridge International A and AS Level components and some Cambridge O Level components.

Page 2	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2016	2048	12

1 (a) An angel appeared to Joseph in three dreams. Give an account of any **two** of them, including what was said **and** Joseph's reaction.

(i) Matthew 1:2 0–25

- Son of David/do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife/what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit/she will give birth to a son/you are to give him name Jesus/he will save his people from their sins
- Joseph woke up/did what angel had told him/took Mary as his wife/did not consummate marriage until after she gave birth

(ii) Matthew 2:1 3–14

- get up/take child and mother to Egypt/stay there until I tell you/Herod is going to search for the child and kill him
- Joseph got up/took child and Mary during night and went to Egypt

(iii) Matthew 2:1 9–21

- Joseph in Egypt/get up/take child and mother to land of Israel/those trying to take child's life are dead
- Joseph took child and mother to land of Israel

[6]

(b) Illustrate and explain **two** of the characteristics of Matthew's Gospel that are found in the birth stories.

Expect examples to illustrate from possible characteristics **such as** – OT fulfilment (e.g. genealogy showing Jesus as son of David/son of Abraham, Isaiah 7, Micah 5, Hosea 11, Jeremiah 31);
 Jesus as Messiah (e.g. genealogy reference to Christ, messianic fulfilments, Herod's question about the Christ);
 Jewish interest (e.g. genealogy, Old Testament, titles of Jesus, meaning of gifts, parallels with Moses).

[6]

(c) 'The birth stories in Matthew's Gospel tell us very little about Jesus.'
 To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.

For example:

Agree: myths/symbols/not historic /therefore little or nothing about the historical figure of Jesus/written much later than events/written with theological purpose rather than biography

Disagree: historical accounts/relate to time and place in history/reveal Jesus' person and future work

[8]

Page 3	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2016	2048	12

2 (a) Give an account of the parable of the sower.

Matthew 13: 1–9

farmer went out to sow seed/as he was scattering, some fell on path/birds came and ate them up
 some fell on rocky places/did not have much soil/sprang up quickly because soil was shallow/when sun came out plants scorched and withered/because they had no roots
 some fell among thorns/grew up and choked the plants
 others fell on good soil where it produced a crop/100, 60 or 30 times what was sown

[6]

(b) What did Jesus teach about the meaning of this parable?

Matthew 13:1 8–23

different reactions to the word by hearers and /or encouraging disciples that there will be a rich harvest and/or importance of right reaction to hearing the word
 path-evil one snatches the word that was sown in his heart
 rocky place-receives with joy but lasts only short time, trouble or persecution and quickly falls away
 thorns-hears the word but worries and wealth choke it so unfruitful
 good soil-hears and understands, produces crop 100, 60 or 30

[6]

(c) ‘Jesus taught in parables so that some people would not understand.’
 To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.

For example:

Agree: reveal to genuine seeker but conceal to others/prophecy of Isaiah/Jesus needed to explain parable to disciples/fulfilled prophecy of Isaiah

Disagree: easy to understand/the means of teaching/allowed people to think about them and remember them/would be pointless to use if purpose was so people would not understand

[8]

3 (a) Give an account of what happened when Jesus walked on water.

Matthew 14:2 3–33

disciples in boat/at fourth watch Jesus went out to them/walking on water/disciples terrified/it's a ghost/take courage/it is I/don't be afraid/Lord if it's you, said Peter, tell me to come to you on the water/come/walked towards Jesus on water/when he saw wind/afraid/began to sink/Lord save me/Jesus reached out hand and caught him/you of little faith, why did you doubt?/climbed into boat/wind died down/those in boat worshipped him/truly you are the Son of God

[6]

Page 4	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2016	2048	12

(b) Explain what this miracle may show about the person and work of Jesus.

rescues when disciples fearful/power over elements/Peter example of discipleship and starts to sink when he takes attention off Jesus/safe with Jesus/recognise as Son of God/worshipped him/It is I – possible divine claim

[6]

(c) ‘It is easier to explain away Jesus’ nature miracles than his healing miracles.’ To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.

For example:

Agree: nature miracles difficult to explain away – naturalistic explanations weak, e.g. sandbank in sea of Galilee/people unlikely to misunderstand what was happening in nature miracles but lack of medical knowledge could account for healings being naturalistic/wrong diagnosis/fake healings

Disagree: healing miracles difficult to explain away – blind receiving sight and lame walking cannot be explained away/witnessed by large crowds/they may not have had our medical knowledge but they would know about blind and crippled medical conditions

both types of miracles difficult to explain away/both types of miracles easy to explain – they are symbolic/myth

[8]

4 (a) (i) Give an account of what led up to Jesus saying to Peter ‘Get behind me, Satan!’.

Matthew 16:2 1–28

Jesus explains that he must go to Jerusalem/predicts his death and resurrection/Peter takes Jesus aside/rebuked him/never Lord/this shall not happen to you

(ii) What did Jesus then explain to his disciples?

if anyone come after me/he must deny himself/take up cross/follow me/whoever wants to save his life will lose it/whoever loses his life for me will find it/what good gains whole world/but forfeits soul/what can a man give in exchange for soul/Son of Man to come in Father’s glory and with angels/reward according to what they have done/some will not die before they see Son of Man coming in his kingdom

[6]

(b) Explain what the Jews understood by the term ‘Son of Man’.

synonym for man/humankind/background in Daniel suggests a figure who is granted dominion over an everlasting Kingdom/apocalyptic with sense of a judge and return at end of time/Matthew 16:13 suggests expectation of it being a prophet/possible link to Messiah

[6]

Page 5	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2016	2048	12

- (c) 'It is not surprising that the Jewish religious authorities saw Jesus as a threat and a blasphemer.' To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.

For example:

Agree: his actions were against the Jewish laws/Sabbath breaker/mixing with sinners/forgiving sins/Son of Man title/jealous of popularity/

Disagree: not all saw Jesus as threat/mixed with Pharisees/went to their houses/they listened to Jesus

[8]

- 5 (a) Give an account of the question which Jesus was asked by the Sadducees about marriage in the life to come, and what Jesus replied.

Matthew 22:2 3–32

Sadducees asked – Moses said if man dies without having children/his brother must marry his widow and have children for him/seven brothers/first died and no children and so married second brother/happened same to each of the seven/when woman died whose wife would she be in the resurrection

reply – you are wrong/don't know scriptures nor power of God/in resurrection neither marry nor given in marriage/but like angels in heaven/not God of the dead but of the living

[6]

- (b) What did Jesus teach about adultery?

Matthew 5:2 7–30; 19: 8–9

not just the act itself but also the attitude and thoughts/everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery in his heart/if right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out/better to lose one of your members than whole body be thrown into hell/likewise with right hand if it causes you to in anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery

[6]

- (c) 'Jesus' teaching on adultery is not relevant to people in the 21st century.' To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.

For example:

Agree: relevant only to those who believe or follow Jesus/sermon addressed only to disciples not to crowd/impossible to follow such rules/expect examples from other parts of sermon on mount/sermon on mount not said by Jesus/has no authority

Disagree: if following Jesus then his teaching is relevant/relevant even if not following Jesus as gives high standards to follow

[8]

Page 6	Mark Scheme	Syllabus	Paper
	Cambridge O Level – May/June 2016	2048	12

6 (a) Give an account of the visit of the women to Jesus' tomb.

Matthew 28: 1–10

women went to sepulchre/great earthquake/angel descended from heaven/rolled back stone/sat on it/appearance like lightning/clothes white as snow/guards feared and became like dead men/do not be afraid/for I know you seek Jesus who was crucified/not here/risen/see where he lay/tell disciples he has risen/going to Galilee/there you will see him/ran to tell disciples

[6]

max 6 can be awarded without reference to the following though this material will also be credited – Jesus met them/Hail/took hold of his feet and worshipped him/do not be afraid/go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee/there they will see me

(b) Why was a guard posted at the tomb and why were the soldiers concerned given a large sum of money?

Matthew 27:6 2–66

chief priests and Pharisees went to Pilate/the imposter said that after three days he would rise again/make tomb secure until third day in case disciples steal body and tell people he has risen from dead/this fraud worse than the first/Pilate told them to take a guard

Matthew 28:1 1–15

reported to chief priests all that had happened/chief priests and elders devised plan/tell people disciples came at night and stole body while you were asleep/promised safe from trouble/so took money

[6]

(c) 'The resurrection of Jesus should be seen as literal rather than symbolic.' To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.

For example:

Agree: witnesses/claimed to be actual events/message of those involved in events/could have been shown to be false but wasn't/historic basis of faith of Christianity

Disagree: reads like symbolic with angels and earthquakes/impossible to rise from dead/accounts differ/accounts written much later after events

[8]