



Cambridge O Level

BIBLICAL STUDIES

2035/22

Paper 2 The Portrayal of Jesus in the Synoptic Gospels

October/November 2025

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **three** questions in total:
 - Section A: answer **one** question.
 - Section B: answer **two** questions.
- 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 60.
- 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 **one** question. Answer all parts of the chosen question.

EITHER

1 Read the following passage and answer the questions:

(a) **Matthew 17:1–2, NRSVA**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.

(i) Identify the **two** people who appeared to Jesus and the disciples in this story. [2]

(ii) Suggest what the transfiguration might show about the person and work of Jesus. [4]

(b) Explain the importance of the ministry of John the Baptist. [6]

(c) To what extent does the title Son of Man help Christians to understand the person and work of Jesus? [8]

[Total: 20]

OR

2 Read the following passage and then answer the questions:

(a) **Mark 6:48–50, NRSVA**

he [Jesus] came towards them early in the morning, walking on the lake. He intended to pass them by. But when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought it was a ghost and cried out; for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

(i) Identify the type of miracle described in this account. [1]

(ii) State **two** things that happened immediately before this account took place. [2]

(iii) State what this account shows about the person of Jesus. [3]

(b) Explain how this miracle might be understood by Christians today. [6]

(c) 'Miracles are the most important part of Jesus' ministry.' Discuss. [8]

[Total: 20]

Section B

Answer **two** questions. Answer all parts of the chosen two questions.

- 3** (a) Give an account of Peter's denial of Jesus. [6]
- (b) Explain why Peter may have denied Jesus. [6]
- (c) Assess the view that Jesus could have avoided his death on the cross. [8]
- [Total: 20]
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- 4** (a) Give an account of the parable of the ten bridesmaids. [6]
- (b) Explain the teaching of Jesus in this parable. [6]
- (c) To what extent are the parables of Jesus more about action than belief? [8]
- [Total: 20]
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- 5** (a) Give an account of the cleansing of the Temple. [6]
- (b) Explain why the Pharisees were opposed to Jesus. [6]
- (c) 'Jesus should have tried harder to avoid conflict with the authorities.' Discuss. [8]
- [Total: 20]

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