



Cambridge Assessment International Education
Cambridge Ordinary Level

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

2048/23

Paper 2 The Portrayal of the Birth of the Early Church

October/November 2018

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 International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

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This document consists of **15** printed pages.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

AO1: Describe and explain using knowledge and understanding.

These level descriptors should be used for all part (a) and (b) questions.

Level 4	6 marks	A thorough, well-developed and substantial response. A comprehensive account of the range and depth of relevant material, demonstrating an extensive and highly accurate knowledge and understanding of the subject. There is detailed explanation. The answer is well structured.
Level 3	4–5 marks	Demonstrates a clear understanding of the question. The information is quite detailed. Generally accurate knowledge and understanding of the subject matter. Covers the main points accurately. The information is in a structured format.
Level 2	2–3 marks	Demonstrates some understanding of the question. A fair, mainly relevant but generally undeveloped response. The candidate demonstrates some factual knowledge and understanding, which is fairly accurate but may lack specific detail. Some of the main points are covered but lack substance. The information will be presented for the most part in a structured format.
Level 1	1 mark	An attempt to answer the question, but demonstrates little understanding of the question. Very limited knowledge of the subject. Response includes only a small amount of relevant material. Information is reported in basic outline only or as a list, with little or no explanation. Mainly inaccurate, though some credible points may be made.
Level 0	0 marks	No attempt whatsoever to answer the set question, or the candidate provides a wholly irrelevant response.

AO2: Use evidence and reasoned argument to express and evaluate personal responses, informed insights and differing viewpoints.

These level descriptors should be used for all part (c) questions.

Level 4	7–8 marks	Recognises and explains the significance of the issue(s). A personal response is fully supported. A range of points of view, supported by justified arguments/discussion. The information is presented in a clear and organised way. Evidence of informed insights.
Level 3	5–6 marks	Understands the significance of the question. Seeks to move clearly beyond a purely descriptive approach. Justified arguments/different points of view, supported by some discussion. Evidence of appropriate personal response. Some evidence of informed insights.
Level 2	3–4 marks	Understands the question but the response is mainly descriptive. Only one view offered with limited support or discussion. Limited or no evidence of informed insights.
Level 1	1–2 marks	The candidate's response is descriptive with no attempt to discuss or evaluate the material at all. Viewpoints are unsupported.
Level 0	0 marks	No response submitted, or clearly lacks any understanding whatsoever of the subject matter.

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Give arguments to support the view that Luke was the author of the Acts of the Apostles. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Many other early writers such as Irenaeus, Tertullian, Clement of Alexandria, later Eusebius and Jerome all give credence to the argument that Luke is responsible for this writing. There is internal evidence that links the author of the Gospel of Luke to the author of Acts: they both address Theophilus, there is natural dovetailing between the two volumes, there is similar content/interest, the 'we' sections suggest Luke the doctor as a best fit for the companion to Paul. He is believed to be a Gentile which fits in with the Gentile Mission which is a dominant theme in Acts. Luke is thought to be a scholarly man (a physician fits in well) and a historian and so his interest and use of geographical locations, careful chronology and attention to detail within Acts all fit with this image of Luke.	6
1(b)	Explain why the 'we' passages are relevant to the reliability of the Acts of the Apostles. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. There are five 'we' passages in total. There is a switch from writing in the third person to the first person plural; these sudden switches read as though the author was a companion of Paul as the writer seems to be part of the story. If this is the case, then what is written would be an eye-witness account and therefore considered to be reliable. The 'we' passages suggest that the author was a travelling companion of Paul for parts of his missionary journeys and therefore would have had a good knowledge of Paul, and may have learned about other events where he was not present and may have listened to Paul preaching etc., which would give his accounts of Paul in the rest of Acts more credibility.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
1(c)	'The Acts of Peter and Paul would be a more fitting title than the Acts of the Apostles.' To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors. Candidates agreeing with the statement may include the following: The book is split in two with the first part focused on Peter, the leader of the early church and the second on Paul and his mission to the Gentiles and the spread of the early church and so it would be a fitting title. Both Peter and Paul are key figures each with their own authority from Christ. Peter as the leader of the twelve apostles and Paul with his conversion and experience of Christ and as such are central to the plot of Acts. Candidates may give examples of the important work performed by Peter, for example, his healing at the Beautiful Gate and vision in Joppa and that of Paul, most notably his conversion and missionary journeys and that these events take up the vast majority of the book. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may include the following: There are many other important figures in Acts who are significant, for example, Philip who converted the Ethiopian Eunuch and spread the gospel, and Stephen who was martyred for his faith. Candidates may give other examples of other notable figures in the early church. It could be argued that the work of the Holy Spirit is the most significant in the Acts of the Apostles and involves all of the apostles and so this title is not accurate. Candidates could suggest that Paul is far more significant on his own due to his missionary journeys and so Paul should be the focus of the title. Candidates may also argue in favour of the title, 'Acts of the Apostles'. All accurate and relevant responses should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	Describe the receiving of the Holy Spirit at Cornelius' house. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. 10:34–46 At Cornelius' house Peter spoke of how God does not show favouritism, 'but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right'. Peter also spoke about Jesus' death and resurrection and how following the resurrection he was commanded to preach and testify that Jesus is the one whom God appointed, and that 'everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name'. While speaking these words, all those who heard the message received the Holy Spirit. 'The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.' Peter responded to this by saying, 'surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptised with water ... so he ordered that they be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ'. Following this, Peter asked to stay with them for a few days.	6
2(b)	Explain how the Holy Spirit influenced events in the Acts of the Apostles. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. The gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was the beginning of the early church's mission. The Holy Spirit is seen to influence events through the speeches of the apostles, for example, Peter 'filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them ...' The Holy Spirit is the means by which the apostles are able to perform miracles, healings and exorcisms. The Holy Spirit influenced the early church in its decision making. For example, choosing Matthias and the choosing of the seven who were also chosen because they were full of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit also influenced and comforted those who were persecuted, for example, 'Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God'. Candidates are likely to use a wide range of examples to demonstrate the ways in which the Holy Spirit influences events and all accurate and relevant responses should be credited.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
2(c)	'The Holy Spirit is not as necessary in the church today as it was in the early church.' To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors. Candidates agreeing with the statement may include the following: The Holy Spirit was the means by which the early church established itself with Pentecost etc. However, now the church has been established it is no longer required. The Holy Spirit was necessary at the time when people needed signs and miracles in order to believe, this is no longer necessary. Many people find it challenging to believe in the Holy Spirit and so would not see it is necessary in the church today. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may include the following: The work of the Holy Spirit is necessary for healings, miracles and exorcisms. The Holy Spirit is still needed to inspire people and those in authority in the church to preach and teach about Jesus Christ and give sermons. The Holy Spirit as part of the Trinity is a central part of Christian belief and as such is vital in the church today. There are many places where Christians are being persecuted for their faith and so need the guidance of the Holy Spirit to endure it. Personal experience may be credited as appropriate. All accurate and relevant responses should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	Describe Peter's escape when he was put in prison by Herod Agrippa. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. 12:6–11 Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with chains and with sentries standing guard. An angel of the Lord appeared and shone a light in the cell. An angel struck Peter on the side and woke him up. The chains fell off Peter's wrists and the angel of the Lord told him to put on his clothes and sandals and follow him. They passed two guards and came to the iron gates. Peter thought he was having a vision, but the iron gate of the city opened by itself and the angel left him. Peter said, 'Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen'. Peter then went to the house of Mary, the mother of John, also called Mark.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
3(b)	Explain: Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.	6
3(b)(i)	the possible reasons why Herod persecuted the church <u>and</u> He persecuted the early church because: Herod killed James (brother of John) which met with approval from the Jewish people, so he proceeded to turn against Peter and so the early church. He felt threatened by Peter and the work of the early church. The Jews were unhappy with the early church and specifically Peter because he seemed to move them away from the Torah and so Herod was acting for them.	
3(b)(ii)	why he died. 12:21–24 Herod addressed the people of Tyre and Sidon, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne. In response to his address they shouted, ‘This is the voice of a god, not of a man ... Immediately, because he did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died’. Candidates should seek to explain this passage, rather than simply narrate it. All other relevant responses should be credited.	

Question	Answer	Marks
3(c)	'It is impossible to believe in angels today.' To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors. Candidates agreeing with the statement may include the following: They are impossible to believe in because you cannot prove the supernatural. They are impossible to believe in because there are many people who have made fraudulent claims and so accounts concerning angels cannot always be trusted. People question the existence of angels when only a select few are able to see them. Accounts involving angels come from a pre-scientific era and so are not relevant today. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may include the following: Some Christians recognise the unseen presence of angels and worship and praise in fullness with the angels. God is still active in the world through supernatural happenings. There is evidence of claims concerning angels from all around the world and so these should be believed and trusted. Anything is possible to believe with faith. All accurate and relevant responses should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	Give an account of the speech that James gave to the Council of Jerusalem. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. James summarised the event of the council: Simon's description of how God first intervened to choose a people for his name from the Gentiles. He then quotes from prophecy concerning the rebuilding of the dwelling of David so that all other people, even the Gentiles, may seek the Lord. James concludes by saying: 'We should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.' They should 'abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood'. He concludes by saying, 'For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogue on every Sabbath'.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
4(b)	Give arguments to support the view that James was the leader of the Jerusalem Church. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. It is believed that when Peter left Jerusalem after his escape from Herod Agrippa's prison that James' influence was extended over the church. It was James who summed up the sense of the meeting at the Council of Jerusalem and gave his judgement for others to adopt, he was the one who was receiving the witness and testimony of others in order to make his decision. As the brother of Jesus he enjoyed a unique status within the church. In chapter 12:17 following Peter's escape from prison he said to 'Tell James and the other brothers and sisters about this' indicating his leadership role in the Jerusalem Church. According to many, James was a chief disciple.	6
4(c)	'The early church was a united church.' To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors. Candidates agreeing with the statement may include the following: The early church was united in their faith in Jesus, by common worship, prayer and a shared community meal. The early church was a community of believers who were united by the Holy Spirit, and the work that it inspired them to do. They were united in their sharing of possessions, ensuring that all those in need were provided for, and that everything was shared out equally among them. The Council of Jerusalem united the church in terms of Gentile inclusion. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may include the following: There were divisions in how they practiced Judaism given that the community was considering Gentile inclusion and beginning a split from formal Judaism. There were those who believed that followers of Christ should be circumcised and follow the law of Moses and there were those who believed that circumcision was not necessary to be part of the early church community. There were divisions over the sharing of goods and the example of Ananias and Sapphira and the introduction of the Seven is evidence of that. The fact that the Council of Jerusalem was necessary shows that there were divisions and although the Council was an attempt to unify the church, there were some who remained unconvinced by its findings. Paul's speech to the Ephesian Elders is evidence of division in the church. There were disagreements between Paul and Barnabas. All accurate and relevant responses should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)	Give an account of the warnings that Paul gives in his speech to the Ephesian Elders at Miletus. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. 20:25–32 He warned them that they would not see him again. He warned them to keep watch over themselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit had made them overseers. He told them to be shepherds of the church of God, which he brought with his own blood. He warned them that after he left, savage wolves will come in among them and will not spare the flock. He warned them that even from their own number men will distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. He warned them to be on their guard and that he never stopped warning them for three years, night and day with tears.	6
5(b)	Explain why Paul was met with opposition throughout his missionary journeys. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Paul was met with opposition because of the miracles that he performed. For example, in Lystra and Derbe when he was thought to be a god, and in Philippi when he angered the owners of the slave girl when he exorcised her spirit. He was opposed because he ignored authorities such as the Sanhedrin. He was opposed because he included Gentiles without requiring them to be circumcised. He spoke out openly against the Jews and other religious authorities highlighting that the Jews had rejected Jesus and now he was opening the way to the Gentiles. He hindered the worship of idols because of his preaching. He ruined business for the idol makers and the owners of the slave girl who performed fortune-telling. Candidates are likely to use a range of examples from the text to support their points and all accurate and relevant accounts should be credited.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
5(c)	‘Missionaries are a thing of the past.’ To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors. Candidates agreeing with the statement may include the following: People today feel uncomfortable with forcing their religion on other people, and there is a sense that it is inappropriate to see one’s own beliefs or religious faith as being superior to that of another. It can be seen as dangerous to operate as a missionary in many non-Christian countries and activities in these areas are not wholly supported. There is a sense that missionaries are no longer needed, access to information about religion is much more readily available to people should they need it. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may include the following: Christians have an obligation to evangelise and spread the word of God and so missionaries will never be a thing of the past, they may just take a different form. There are some places that have little or no exposure to Christianity and so missions here would be very much needed today. Missionaries are the reason why so many churches were set up in various countries and they still need support. Missionaries are even more vital today in places of conflict and disaster. All other accurate and relevant responses should be credited as appropriate.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)	Describe: Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.	6
6(a)(i)	the prediction Agabus made in Antioch <u>and</u> 11:28–29 Agabus stood up and through the Spirit, predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world.	
6(a)(ii)	what happened in Caesarea when Paul met Agabus. 21:8–15 A prophet, Agabus, came down from Judea. He came over to Paul, took his belt and tied his own hands and feet with it and said, ‘The Holy Spirit says, “In this way the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles”’. When they heard this they all pleaded with Paul not to go to Jerusalem, however, Paul replied that he was ready to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus. ‘The Lord’s will be done.’	
6(b)	Explain why the slave girl’s revelations in Philippi caused trouble for Paul. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. 16:16–24 She caused trouble for Paul because she followed them and she revealed that Paul and Silas; ‘are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved’. This caused trouble for Paul because he became annoyed by her continual shouting and turned around and said to the spirit, ‘In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!’ The result of this healing was that Paul had angered her owners, who were cross that their source of income had been lost. This caused trouble for them because Paul and Silas were then dragged into the market place to face the authorities. This caused further trouble for them, as they were accused of ‘... advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice’. The girl’s revelations caused trouble because they led to Paul and Silas being stripped, flogged and thrown into jail where their feet were fastened in the stocks.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
6(c)	‘Prophecy is an unreliable source of information.’ To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view. Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors. Candidates agreeing with the statement may include the following: Prophecies are often seen to be untrue or fraudulent. They can be hard to interpret and so cannot be seen as a source of reliable information. For many, the future has not been determined, and so it is open to change and cannot be predicted. Some would argue that it is impossible to predict the future as we all have free will. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may include the following: Prophecy in the Old Testament has been shown to be true in the person of Jesus, and so prophecy should be regarded as a source of reliable information. Prophecy is a way that God communicates with his people and so should be seen as a source of reliable information as God is himself. All accurate and relevant responses should be credited.	8