



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 2019

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 **18** 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 mark	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)	Describe what the Acts of the Apostles say about Judas. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: The scriptures had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as a guide for those who arrested Jesus. Peter says, 'He was one of our number and shared in our ministry'. With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field. There he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, 'field of blood'. The Psalms said: 'May his place be deserted; let there be no one to dwell in it' and 'May another take the place of leadership', and so it was necessary for Judas to be replaced.	6
1(b)	Explain what the work of the apostles shows about life in the early church. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: The work of the apostles shows us that life was spirit filled and spirit led. The Holy Spirit empowered the apostles to speak, preach, heal, convert etc. Their work shows us that life in the early church was one of communion; they lived and worked together, shared possessions, food and met regularly to break bread. Their work shows that life was prayerful, and the apostles would pray before decision making and at key moments. Their work shows that life was busy, full of teaching, preaching and bringing new believers to the faith. Their work shows that life was one of development and growth – the church was fast expanding with new believers both Jews and Gentiles. The work of the apostles shows us that life was often dangerous and held the possibility of persecution, for example following that of Stephen, Peter and Paul etc. The work of Paul shows us that life was one of mission and may involve travelling in order to preach the good news.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
1(c)	‘The early church was more concerned with the number of new believers than with their needs.’ 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 suggest some of the following arguments: The church’s actions were very much focused on gathering new believers. The apostles gave speeches, performed miracles and healings and worked with the Holy Spirit to this end. The missionary journeys of Paul were targeted at gaining new believers and establishing new churches. In order for the new church to develop, it had to focus on gathering as many new members as was possible. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments: The ‘Seven’ were established in order to serve the needs of the people, out of concern for their needs. Paul re-visited many of the churches that he had established to ensure their needs. The Council of Jerusalem was not simply about gaining new believers it was also about ensuring the peoples’ well-being and addressing the needs of this new community. All valid comments should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	Describe the prayer of the believers after Peter and John were released from prison. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: Sovereign Lord you made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: 'Why do the nations rage and the people plot in vain? The Kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed one'. Herod, Pilate, Gentiles, the people of Israel conspired against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what you decided would happen. Now Lord, consider their threats and with great boldness stretch out your hand and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)	Explain why fear seized the church after Peter's encounter with Ananias and Sapphira. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: Fear seized the church because people were shocked by what happened to Ananias and Sapphira. The church was expected to share all they had and not keep anything back for themselves which may have made them fear about life ahead. We are told that Ananias with the knowledge of his wife did not follow the way of the church and sold a piece of property but kept part back for himself. They were filled with fear because Peter says that Satan filled Ananias' heart and that he lied to the Holy Spirit. We are told he not only lied to human beings but to God. The result of this was that he died. People may have feared that this would / could happen to them also and may have doubled their commitment to the church. Peter also says that Sapphira had conspired to test the Holy Spirit of the Lord and warned her that the same fate that befell her husband would happen to her – the next morning she died. This event served as a warning to the church that they should not work against the Holy Spirit.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
2(c)	‘Christians today could not fulfil the demands made of the early believers.’ 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 suggest some of the following arguments: It is not practical to share money, possessions or property today. Most Christians do not live in such tight communities and cannot meet to break bread etc. The demands of the early church were appropriate to that time in history and we are now not an emerging church facing opposition and persecution in the same way. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments: The demands of the early church could still be fulfilled by Christians today, as the Spirit still directs the life of the church. Christians still meet regularly to pray as part of a community and so this is still very much relevant. The demands made of the early believers have evolved and whilst most Christians do not share everything, many churches work towards charitable aims and do good in the community and across the world. All valid comments should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	Describe Herod's persecution of James <u>and</u> Peter. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. He arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James the brother of John put to death with the sword. This met with approval from the Jews and so he seized Peter during the festival of Unleavened Bread and Peter was kept in prison awaiting public trial after Passover. Peter was guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Peter however, escaped from prison and Herod had a thorough search made for him and they did not find him. Herod then cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.	6
3(b)	Explain why Stephen was stoned to death. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: Stephen was stoned to death because he was accused of speaking blasphemous words against Moses and God. They stirred up the people and the elders and teachers of the law. They produced false witnesses who testified that Stephen spoke against 'this holy place' and against the law. They claim he said that 'Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and change the customs Moses handed down to us.' The speech that Stephen made about the rejection of Jesus also caused the members of the Sanhedrin to become furious and they gnashed their teeth at him.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
3(c)	‘Without Stephen’s death the church would not have gained so many new believers.’ 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 suggest some of the following arguments: After Stephen’s death, the church scattered because of persecution. This led to Philip in Samaria etc. As a result of the scattering the apostles began to convert the Gentiles which enabled a great number of converts and new believers to join the church. Martyrdom is one of the ways that inspired people to become Christian. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments: Saul’s mission and his journeys were the result of an experience of Christ and Paul is responsible for evangelising far and wide and gaining so many new believers. Following Pentecost, the Holy Spirit directed events and so may well have led the church to spread in this way, even without the persecution of Stephen. All valid comments should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	Give an account of Paul's visit to Lystra. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: In Lystra, Paul encountered a man who was lame from birth and had never walked. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. Paul saw that he had faith to be healed and called out, 'stand up on your feet' and the man jumped up and began to walk. The crowd shouted in the Lycaonian language, 'The gods have come down to us in human form', Barnabas they thought was Zeus and Paul, Hermes because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought bulls and wreaths to the city gates because he and the crowd wanted to offer sacrifices to them. Barnabas and Paul tore their clothes and asked them why they were doing this as they were only human like them. They explained the good news of Jesus Christ but had trouble preventing the crowds from trying to sacrifice them.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
4(b)	Explain what Paul teaches about God in his speech in Pisidian Antioch. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: Paul says that he chose our ancestors, led them out of Egypt and overthrew seven nations in Canaan giving their land to his people as their inheritance. This took about 450 years. God gave them judges until the time of Samuel the prophet. The people asked for a King and eventually David. Later, God brought to Israel the Saviour Jesus as he promised, and before him, John, to prepare the way. He was rejected and killed but God raised him from the dead and many had seen him and are his witnesses. God fulfilled what he promised the ancestors. God raised Jesus Christ from the dead so that he will not be subject to decay. God works through salvation history and has a plan for the world. This could be said to be part of the covenantal relationship God has with the world. Candidates may use other references to God made in this speech. It is important that they explain, rather than simply describe the passage.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
4(c)	‘The Jewish authorities caused most of the problems that Paul experienced.’ 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 suggest some of the following arguments: The Jewish authorities in Pisidian Antioch were jealous of Paul’s popular preaching and contradicted what Paul was saying and heaped abuse on him. Similar things happened in Iconium where they stirred up Gentiles, poisoned their minds against them and plotted to stone them. In Thessalonica, again there were some who were jealous and formed a mob and caused a riot. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments: Initially it was the church in Jerusalem that caused problems for Paul as they were afraid of him and did not believe him to be a disciple. In Cyprus it was a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet called Bar-Jesus who caused opposition for Paul, who tried to oppose the word of God. In Lystra and Derbe it was not the Jewish authorities who caused problems for Paul, but the crowds who mistook Paul and Barnabas for gods (Zeus and Hermes in human form). In Philippi it was not the Jewish authorities but Gentiles who argued that Paul was advocating customs unlawful for the Romans to accept or practice. All valid comments should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)	Describe: Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following:	6
5(a)(i)	Paul's vision in Troas <u>and</u> They passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' After Paul had seen the vision, they got ready to leave for Macedonia, believing that God had called them to preach the gospel to them.	
5(a)(ii)	the conversion that then took place in Philippi. Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth was listening to Paul preaching. She was a worshipper of God and the Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. She and the members of her household were baptised, she invited them to her home. 'If you consider me a believer in the Lord,' she said, 'come and stay at my house,' and she persuaded them.	
5(b)	Explain the significance of the healings in Lydda and Joppa. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: The healings were significant because they demonstrated to people that the healings were done through the power of Jesus Christ. In Lydda Peter says; 'Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and roll up your mat'. In Joppa Peter only had to say, 'Tabitha get up' and she was restored, resulting in the people believing in the Lord. The healings were significant because they brought several new believers to the church. All those who lived in Joppa and Sharon that saw the paralysed man healed turned to the Lord and the healing of Tabitha became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. The healings were significant because they demonstrate that those who have faith in the healing power of the apostles can be healed, which is shown when two men were sent to fetch Peter to come at once to save her.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
5(c)	‘Women were important in the development of 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 suggest some of the following arguments: Lydia clearly was important in establishing a meeting place for the early church. Furthermore, a vision concerning Lydia opened up a whole new nation to the gospel. Tabitha / Dorcus was a member of the early Christian community in Joppa. She is mentioned for her acts of charity; making garments for the needy widows and due to her healing, many more were converted. Luke features several women in the book of Acts, and women were a significant part of his narrative. Women are mentioned as being part of the original nucleus of the church; the apostles ‘along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus’. Women were clearly significant in the early church as Saul persecuted them and clearly thought of them as a threat (8:3, 9:2, 22:4). It is mentioned throughout Acts that there were women disciples who believed, were baptized and even hosted house churches, highlighting them as significant members of the early church community. In Acts 2 it is implied that women as well as men were filled with the Spirit and enjoyed the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Women formed a central role of the faith life of the community e.g. Mary Acts 1:14 and were part of the unity in prayer. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments: Although women are mentioned in the book of Acts, there are no reports of any women being called, commissioned, enduring persecutions or ministering by the power of the Holy Spirit. It is the men in Acts who are responsible for the development of the church, who go on missionary journeys and encourage new believers. In Acts, women do not preach, heal or exorcise as the male disciples do and that although they are presented favourably they are by no means equal to men and as such are not important in the development of the church. Priscilla is always paired with her husband Aquila, so it is hard to separate her and consider her importance independent of him. All valid comments should be credited.	8

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)	Outline the events that took place in Corinth on Paul's second missionary journey. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: Paul met a Jew named Aquila and his wife Priscilla and he stayed and worked with them. Every Sabbath he went to the synagogue trying to persuade the Jews and the Greeks. One night in Corinth, Paul had a vision and the Lord spoke to him saying: 'Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.' So, Paul stayed in Corinth teaching the word of God. The Jews of Corinth made a united attack on Paul when Gallio was proconsul of Achaia. They brought him to the place of judgement and charged him with 'persuading the people to worship God in ways contrary to the law.' However, Gallio argued that the matter should be settled by them and he would not be a judge of such things.	6
6(b)	Explain different ways in which the Holy Spirit affected Paul. Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following: In chapter 9 we are told that Ananias was sent to Paul that he may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit. In 13:2 we are told that 'the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them'.' Following on from this they were sent on their way by the Holy Spirit to Seleucia and from there to Cyprus. The Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to enter Bithynia, so they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas (16:7). Paul goes on to suffer in Jerusalem as a 'captive to the Spirit'. The Holy Spirit empowered Paul to perform healings and miracles. Having been filled with the Spirit, Paul did extraordinary miracles in Ephesus (19:11, 12). The Holy Spirit also gave Paul the power to give speeches and preach, leading to a large number of new believers.	6

Question	Answer	Marks
6(c)	'The Holy Spirit is not relevant to Christians 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 suggest some of the following arguments: The apostles had already been commissioned before Pentecost and so would have had developed the church anyway and their acts recorded as a result, so the Holy Spirit is not relevant today. It is the message of the death and resurrection of Jesus that converts new believers and so it is Jesus rather than the Holy Spirit who is relevant to Christians today. Healings and miracles were performed before the coming of the Holy Spirit by the apostles and so they may have continued this without the Holy Spirit. Some today claim, that the power of Jesus enables them to heal. Many Christians feel they are not guided by the Holy Spirit in the same way as those in the early church and so is not relevant to their life or worship today. Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments: It was because of the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost that led to the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles and so the birth of the early church. The Holy Spirit is the reason why the apostles were able to give speeches and preach, leading to a number of new believers and the development of the early church. The Holy Spirit is the reason why the apostles and the faithful were able to withstand persecution and offer inspiration to Christians today. The Holy Spirit directed the apostles' journeys and missions and the Holy Spirit's presence was an indication of God's approval of the apostles' work and in the same way guides Christians in their missionary activity and preaching today. The Holy Spirit in many churches from the Pentecostal tradition is involved in worship and in speaking in tongues, and so is hugely relevant today. All valid comments should be credited.	8