



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)
General Certificate of Education
January 2012

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit AS 4

assessing

The Christian Church in the
Roman Empire: Beginnings, Expansion
and External Pressure

[AR141]

FRIDAY 20 JANUARY, AFTERNOON



TIME

1 hour 20 minutes.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **one** question from Section A and **one** question from Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 100.

Quality of written communication will be assessed in **all** questions.

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of pages indicate the marks awarded to each question or part question.

ADVICE TO CANDIDATES

You are advised to take account of the marks for each question or part question in allocating the available examination time.

BLANK PAGE

Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A.

- 1 (a) Explain the reasons for the persecution of Christians in the first three centuries. [35]
- (b) To what extent did persecution play a key role in the spread of Christianity in the Roman Empire? Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Give an account of the debate surrounding the conversion of the Emperor Constantine. [35]
- (b) Explore the claim that the Edict of Milan was a significant event in the growth of the Christian Church. Justify your answer. [15]

Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B.

- 3 (a) Describe the themes of martyrdom and heresy as they are found in the letters of Ignatius of Antioch. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that such writings provide useful guidance for the religious believer in any age. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Give an account of the way in which the doctrine of Apostolic Succession grew and developed in the first three centuries. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, explore the view that religious leaders should always be obeyed without question. Justify your answer. [15]

