



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY (AS)  
General Certificate of Education  
January 2013

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**Religious Studies**  
Assessment Unit AS 4

*assessing*

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

[AR141]



AR141

**THURSDAY 17 JANUARY, MORNING**

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**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.

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## Section A

Answer **one** question from Section A.

- 1 (a) Explain how the witness of the Christian martyrs influenced the spread of Christianity in the first three centuries. [35]
- (b) Explore the claim that other factors were more important than martyrdom in the growth of the Early Church. Justify your answer. [15]
- 2 (a) Describe the course of the Great Persecution which began in the reign of the Emperor Diocletian and explain how it differed from previous persecutions. [35]
- (b) Explore the claim that this persecution never had any chance of success. Justify your answer. [15]

## Section B

Answer **one** question from Section B.

- 3 (a) Describe the main features of Justin Martyr's defence of Christianity. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the claim that such writings are always relevant to the religious believer. Justify your answer. [15]
- 4 (a) Explain the ways in which Church Government developed during the first three centuries. [35]
- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, comment on the view that various patterns of religious leadership are effective. Justify your answer. [15]

