



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED

General Certificate of Education

2019

Religious Studies

Assessment Unit A2 1

assessing

Themes in the Synoptic Gospels



ARE11

[ARE11]

TUESDAY 4 JUNE, MORNING

TIME

2 hours.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

Write your Centre Number and Candidate Number on the Answer Booklet provided.
Answer **two** questions from Section A and the compulsory question in Section B.

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

The total mark for this paper is 150.

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

Figures in brackets printed down the right-hand side of the 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 part question in allocating the available examination time.

Section A

Answer **two** questions from this section

- 1 (a) "Narrative Criticism is an important tool in developing our understanding of the Gospels."
Present a case for this statement. [20]
- (b) With reference to the text of the Gospels, critically evaluate the view that Biblical Criticism provides the clearest understanding of the life and message of Jesus. [30]
- 2 (a) Discuss Jesus' attitude to the poor in the Synoptic Gospels. [20]
- (b) "It is not possession of wealth, but one's attitude towards it that is important."
To what extent is this statement true today? [30]
- 3 (a) In what ways are the Synoptic Gospel accounts of the burial of Jesus different from one another? [20]
- (b) "There is every reason to believe that the accounts of the empty tomb story are true."
Critically assess the validity of this claim. [30]

Section B

Synoptic Assessment

Theme: Religious Texts, Authority and Interpretation

You **must** answer this question

- 4 (a) "Religious texts have failed to resolve the problem of evil and suffering."

Present a case for this statement. You must support your answer with reference to at least one other unit of study. [20]

- (b) With reference to other aspects of human experience, critically assess the view that evil and suffering are still a major problem for religious belief. [30]

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