
DIVINITY

8041/23

Paper 2 The Four Gospels

October/November 2016

3 hours

Additional Materials: Answer Booklet/Paper

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

If you have been given an Answer Booklet, follow the instructions on the front cover of the Booklet.

Write your Centre number, candidate number and name on all the work you hand in.

Write in dark blue or black pen.

Do not use staples, paper clips, glue or correction fluid.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY BARCODES.

Answer **four** questions. If you choose to answer Question 1, answer in **one** version only.

Revised Standard Version of Question **1** is printed on page **2**.

New International Version of Question **1** is printed on page **3**.

You are reminded of the need for good English and clear presentation in your answers.

At the end of the examination, fasten all your work securely together.

All questions in this paper carry 25 marks.

This document consists of **4** printed pages.

REVISED STANDARD VERSION

- 1 Comment on points of interest or difficulty in **four** of the following passages (wherever possible answers should refer to the context of the passage but should not retell the story from which the passage is taken): [25]
- (a) They do all their deeds to be seen by men; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, and they love the place of honour at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues, and salutations in the market places, and being called rabbi by men. (Matthew 23:5–7)
 - (b) So when Pilate saw that he was gaining nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, “I am innocent of this man’s blood; see to it yourselves.” (Matthew 27:24)
 - (c) And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.” (Mark 1:7–8)
 - (d) And he awoke and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. (Mark 4:39)
 - (e) When the messengers of John had gone, he began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to behold? A reed shaken by the wind?” (Luke 7:24)
 - (f) Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. (Luke 8:1a)
 - (g) Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him... (John 3:1–2a)
 - (h) Since it was the day of Preparation, in order to prevent the bodies from remaining on the cross on the sabbath (for that sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. (John 19:31)

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

- 1 Comment on points of interest or difficulty in **four** of the following passages (wherever possible answers should refer to the context of the passage but should not retell the story from which the passage is taken): [25]
- (a) Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; they love the place of honour at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; they love to be greeted in the market-places and to have men call them 'Rabbi'. (Matthew 23:5–7)
- (b) When Pilate saw that he was getting nowhere, but that instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. "I am innocent of this man's blood," he said. "It is your responsibility!" (Matthew 27:24)
- (c) And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptise you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit." (Mark 1:7–8)
- (d) He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. (Mark 4:39)
- (e) After John's messengers left, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?" (Luke 7:24)
- (f) After this, Jesus travelled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. (Luke 8:1a)
- (g) Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said... (John 3:1–2a)
- (h) Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jews did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. (John 19:31)

- 2 How important are forgiveness and compassion in Matthew's Gospel? [25]
- 3 How significant is the use of prophecy in Matthew's Gospel? [25]
- 4 Assess the view that the death of Jesus is the most important event recorded in Mark's Gospel. [25]
- 5 Examine Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of God in Mark's Gospel. [25]
- 6 'The songs of Mary, Zechariah and Simeon all set the scene for what is to follow later in Luke's Gospel.' Discuss. [25]
- 7 Examine Luke's account of the resurrection and of the post-resurrection appearances of Jesus. [25]
- 8 Show why the resurrection of Lazarus is seen as central to the Gospel of John. [25]
- 9 Discuss the importance of the following 'I am' sayings in John's Gospel:
- (i) the Good Shepherd
 - (ii) the resurrection and the life
 - (iii) the way, the truth and the life. [25]
- 10 Explain and analyse the teaching of Jesus on discipleship and commitment. [25]
- 11 Examine solutions to the Synoptic Problem. [25]
- 12 Discuss Jesus' teaching on wealth and material possessions. [25]
- 13 Explain the difficulties of interpreting the ethical teachings of Jesus. [25]
- 14 Assess the similarities and differences between the Gospel accounts of Jesus' trial before Pilate. [25]

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