
DIVINITY

9011/12

Paper 1 Prophets of the Old Testament

October/November 2016

3 hours

No Additional Materials are required.

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet is provided inside this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Answer **four** questions.

Answer Question **10** in Section C and **three** other questions, including at least **one** question from Section A and **one** from Section B.

Answer Question **10** in **one** version only.

Revised Standard Version of Question **10** begins on page 3.

New International Version of Question **10** begins on page 5.

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

All questions in this paper carry 25 marks.

This document consists of **6** printed pages, **2** blank pages and **1** insert.

Section A*Prophecy in general and Pre-canonical Prophets*

- 1 'We know nothing about the real character and personality of Moses – all we know is what God told him to say and do.' How far do you agree? [25]
- 2 Assess the view that Israelite prophecy began with Samuel. [25]
- 3 'Elijah was different from other prophets.' Assess this claim. [25]
- 4 The Old Testament prophets used many different methods to deliver their messages. In your view, which method was the most effective, and why? [25]
- 5 Examine the claim that kings and prophets saw each other as necessary evils. [25]

Section B*Pre-exilic Prophets, with special reference to Amos, Hosea, Isaiah of Jerusalem and Jeremiah*

- 6 Critically examine the use Amos makes of the concept of God's absolute power. [25]
- 7 Consider the view that all of Hosea's prophecy was the result of Gomer's sexual immorality. [25]
- 8 'Symbolic acts were more important in the prophecies of Jeremiah than of Isaiah of Jerusalem.' Discuss. [25]
- 9 'The pre-exilic prophets added nothing new to the work and message of the pre-canonical prophets.' How far do you agree? [25]

Section C

REVISED STANDARD VERSION

- 10** 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) And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.”
(Numbers 11:27)
- (b) And if you say in your heart, “How may we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?” – when a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the word does not come to pass or come true, that is a word which the LORD has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously, you need not be afraid of him.
(Deuteronomy 18:21–22)
- (c) When he turned his back to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart; and all these signs came to pass that day. When they came to Gibeah, behold, a band of prophets met him; and the spirit of God came mightily upon him, and he prophesied among them. And when all who knew him before saw how he prophesied with the prophets, the people said to one another, “What has come over the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?”
(1 Samuel 10:9–11)
- (d) And there he came to a cave, and lodged there; and behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He said, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the people of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword ...”
(1 Kings 19:9–10a)
- (e) And Micaiah said, “Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing beside him on his right hand and on his left; and the LORD said, ‘Who will entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?’ And one said one thing, and another said another. Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, saying, ‘I will entice him.’”
(1 Kings 22:19–21)
- (f) Now therefore hear the word of the LORD.
You say, “Do not prophesy against Israel,
and do not preach against the house of Isaac.”
Therefore thus says the LORD:
“Your wife shall be a harlot in the city,
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,
and your land shall be parcelled out by line;
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.”
(Amos 7:16–17)
- (g) And the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is beloved of a paramour and is an adulteress; even as the LORD loves the people of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins.” So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley. And I said to her, “You must dwell as mine for many days; you shall not play the harlot, or belong to another man; so will I also be to you.”
(Hosea 3:1–3)

- (h) Hear the word of the LORD, O people of Israel;
 for the LORD has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land.
 There is no faithfulness or kindness,
 and no knowledge of God in the land ...
 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge;
 because you have rejected knowledge,
 I reject you from being a priest to me.
 And since you have forgotten the law of your God,
 I also will forget your children. (Hosea 4:1, 6)
- (i) In the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but they could not conquer it. When the house of David was told, "Syria is in league with Ephraim," his heart and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind. And the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go forth to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-jashub your son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the fuller's field ..."
 (Isaiah 7:1–3)
- (j) After Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon had taken into exile from Jerusalem Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, together with the princes of Judah, the craftsmen, and the smiths, and had brought them to Babylon, the LORD showed me this vision: Behold, two baskets of figs placed before the temple of the LORD. One basket had very good figs, like first-ripe figs, but the other basket had very bad figs, so bad that they could not be eaten.
 (Jeremiah 24:1–2)
- (k) Do not listen to the words of the prophets who are saying to you, "You shall not serve the king of Babylon," for it is a lie which they are prophesying to you. I have not sent them, says the LORD, but they are prophesying falsely in my name, with the result that I will drive you out and you will perish, you and the prophets who are prophesying to you. (Jeremiah 27:14–15)

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

- 10** 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) A young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.”
(Numbers 11:27)
- (b) You may say to yourselves, “How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?” If what a prophet proclaims in the name of the LORD does not take place or come true, that is a message the LORD has not spoken. That prophet has spoken presumptuously. Do not be afraid of him.
(Deuteronomy 18:21–22)
- (c) As Saul turned to leave Samuel, God changed Saul’s heart, and all these signs were fulfilled that day. When they arrived at Gibeah, a procession of prophets met him; the Spirit of God came upon him in power, and he joined in their prophesying. When all those who had formerly known him saw him prophesying with the prophets, they asked each other, “What is this that has happened to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?”
(1 Samuel 10:9–11)
- (d) There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword ...”
(1 Kings 19:9–10a)
- (e) Micaiah continued, “Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on his throne with all the host of heaven standing round him on his right and on his left. And the LORD said, ‘Who will entice Ahab into attacking Ramoth Gilead and going to his death there?’ One suggested this, and another that. Finally, a spirit came forward, stood before the LORD and said, ‘I will entice him.’”
(1 Kings 22:19–21)
- (f) Now then, hear the word of the LORD. You say,
“Do not prophesy against Israel,
and stop preaching against the house of Isaac.”
Therefore this is what the LORD says:
“Your wife will become a prostitute in the city,
and your sons and daughters will fall by the sword.
Your land will be measured and divided up,
and you yourself will die in a pagan country.
and Israel will certainly go into exile,
away from their native land.”
(Amos 7:16–17)
- (g) The LORD said to me, “Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another and is an adulteress. Love her as the LORD loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes.” So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. Then I told her, “You are to live with me for many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will live with you.”
(Hosea 3:1–3)

- (h)** Hear the word of the LORD, you Israelites,
because the LORD has a charge to bring against you who live in the land:
“There is no faithfulness, no love,
no acknowledgement of God in the land.
... my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.
Because you have rejected knowledge
I also reject you as my priests;
because you have ignored the law of your God,
I also will ignore your children.” (Hosea 4:1, 6)
- (i)** When Ahaz son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, was king of Judah, King Rezin of Aram and Pekah son of Remaliah king of Israel marched up to fight against Jerusalem, but they could not overpower it. Now the house of David was told, “Aram has allied itself with Ephraim”; so the hearts of Ahaz and his people were shaken, as the trees of the forest are shaken by the wind. Then the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go out, you and your son Shear-Jashub, to meet Ahaz at the end of the aqueduct of the Upper Pool, on the road to the Washerman’s Field.” (Isaiah 7:1–3)
- (j)** After Jehoiachin son of Jehoiakim king of Judah and the officials, the craftsmen and the artisans of Judah were carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, the LORD showed me two baskets of figs placed in front of the temple of the LORD. One basket had very good figs, like those that ripen early; the other basket had very poor figs, so bad that they could not be eaten. (Jeremiah 24:1–2)
- (k)** Do not listen to the words of the prophets who say to you, “You will not serve the king of Babylon,” for they are prophesying lies to you. “I have not sent them,” declares the LORD. “They are prophesying lies in my name. Therefore I will banish you and you will perish, both you and the prophets who prophesy to you.” (Jeremiah 27:14–15)

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