
RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BIBLE KNOWLEDGE)

2048/22

Paper 2 The Portrayal of the Birth of the Early Church

May/June 2019

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 80

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

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This document consists of **19** printed pages.

Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptors for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
marks are not deducted for errors
marks are not deducted for omissions
answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question (however; the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|---|--------|--|
| Level descriptors for 2048 | | |
| AO1 (Knowledge and Understanding) | | |
| These should be used for all part (a) and part (b) questions. | | |
| Level | Mark | Level Descriptor |
| 4 | 6 | A thorough, well-developed and substantial response. A comprehensive account of the range and depth of relevant material demonstrating an extensive and highly accurate knowledge and understanding of the subject. There is detailed explanation. The answer is well structured. |
| 3 | 4–5 | Demonstrates a clear understanding of the question. The information is quite detailed. Generally accurate knowledge and understanding of the subject matter. Covers the main points accurately. The information is in a structured format. |
| 2 | 2–3 | Demonstrates some understanding of the question. A fair, mainly relevant but generally undeveloped response. The candidate demonstrates some factual knowledge and understanding, which is fairly accurate but may lack specific detail. Some of the main points are covered but lack substance. The information will be presented for the most part in a structured format. |
| 1 | 1 | An attempt to answer the question, but demonstrates little understanding of the question. Very limited knowledge of the subject. Response includes only a small amount of relevant material. Information is reported in basic outline only or as a list, with little or no explanation. Mainly inaccurate, though some credible points may be made. |
| 0 | 0 | No attempt whatsoever to answer the set question, or the candidate provides a wholly irrelevant response. |
| AO2 (Evaluation) | | |
| These should be used for all part (c) questions. | | |
| Level | Mark | Level Descriptor |
| 4 | 7–8 | Recognises and explains the significance of the issue(s). A personal response is fully supported. A range of points of view supported by justified arguments/ discussion. The information is presented in a clear and organised way. Evidence of informed insights. |
| 3 | 5–6 | Understands the significance of the question. Seeks to move clearly beyond a purely descriptive approach. Justified arguments/different points of view supported by some discussion. Evidence of appropriate personal response. Some evidence of informed insights. |
| 2 | 3–4 | Understands the question but the response is mainly descriptive. Only one view offered with limited support or discussion. Limited or no evidence of informed insights. |
| 1 | 1–2 | The candidate's response is descriptive with no attempt to discuss or evaluate the material at all. Viewpoints are unsupported. |
| 0 | 0 | No response submitted, or clearly lacks any understanding whatsoever of the subject matter. |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|----------|
| 1(a) | <p>Describe the events up to and including Jesus being taken up into heaven.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>Acts 1:3–12</p> <p>After his suffering, Jesus appeared to the apostles over 40 days and gave them proof of the Kingdom of God.</p> <p>Whilst eating with them he told them, ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit’.</p> <p>They asked if he was going to restore the kingdom to Israel.</p> <p>He responded by saying that it was not for them to know the times/dates but ‘you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you’.</p> <p>He tells them that they will be his witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.</p> <p>After this he was taken up before their very eyes and a cloud took him from their sight.</p> <p>Suddenly two men in white stood beside them and said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus who has been taken from you into heaven will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven’.</p> | 6 |
| 1(b) | <p>Explain how members of the early church organised themselves.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>When decisions needed to be made, for example, when they needed to replace Judas, they cast lots.</p> <p>The apostles were mostly those who gave the speeches, preached, healed and performed miracles. As their numbers grew, they also organised for seven men to oversee the distribution of food, so that the twelve could focus on prayer and ministry of the word. They chose the seven men who were presented to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them.</p> <p>There was the church in Jerusalem (arguably led by James), which was a founding church but following the death of Stephen all except the apostles were scattered.</p> <p>On his journeys Paul set up churches and appointed elders etc.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 1(c) | <p>‘The early church started because of the Holy Spirit.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates agreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>Jesus told his apostles to wait and receive the Holy Spirit in order to start their ministry.</p> <p>Following the gift of the Spirit at Pentecost and Peter’s speech about three thousand were added to their number.</p> <p>It was because of the Holy Spirit that they were able to perform signs and wonders which led to new believers.</p> <p>The Holy Spirit empowered individuals like Stephen and Peter to speak and again help to bring new believers.</p> <p>The Holy Spirit pouring out on the Gentiles showed the apostles that the church was for everyone.</p> <p>Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>The disciples were commissioned by Jesus to preach etc. in the gospels so the church would have developed anyway.</p> <p>Jesus’ death and resurrection is a focus for a large majority of speeches and their witness of the resurrection is part of the reason why the church spread.</p> <p>There were individuals like Apollos who were doing great work proving from the scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah, before he received the gift of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>All valid arguments should be credited.</p> | 8 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 2(a) | <p>Give the arguments to support the view that the Acts of the Apostles was written before 64 CE.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>Tradition has it that Paul perished in the persecution of Nero in 64 CE. If 'Luke' had been writing after 64 CE then it is reasonable to imagine that he would have referred to this event in some way.</p> <p>It seems more likely that the author was writing before the general persecution of the Christian church by the Romans.</p> <p>There is no mention of the Roman-Jewish war and destruction of the temple in 66–70 CE, so it suggests that the text was written before this.</p> <p>The author is concerned with questions that an emerging church would have been interested in for example, membership criteria, converts, organisation, distribution of assets etc.</p> | 6 |
| 2(b) | <p>Explain why it could be argued that it is important to know who the author of the Acts of the Apostles is.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors. Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>Knowing who the author is would help us to understand who their audience was, why they were writing and when. It seems as though the author has a special interest in Gentiles and it would be useful to know why that is the case.</p> <p>We might have a better idea of where their sources of information have come from and if they have any first-hand knowledge or experience. For example, if Luke was writing the Acts of the Apostles then there are 'we' passages, which suggest an eye witness account.</p> <p>If Luke is the author, then the fact that this is arguably the second of a two-part work is significant.</p> <p>The idea of placing the text within its literary, social, political and historical context, is useful, in order to know the author better.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 2(c) | <p>‘There is no connection between Luke’s Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates agreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>They are separate books that are entirely readable in their own right. Luke’s Gospel is about the life and work of Jesus, the Acts of the Apostles is about life in the early church and the work of the apostles.</p> <p>There is no conclusive evidence that the author is the same for both books.</p> <p>Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>They are addressed to Theophilus.</p> <p>The book of Acts follows on from the Gospel and continues the themes of the Gospel (for example, focus on the Gentiles).</p> <p>Both books have a similar style, and use of language etc.</p> <p>It is traditionally held that they have been written by the same author.</p> <p>All valid comments should be credited. Better candidates will be balanced in their responses, giving a range of informed views, a supported personal view point and providing a well-organised answer.</p> | 8 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 3(a) | <p>Outline what happened when Peter and John were first brought to the Sanhedrin.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>Acts 4:5–21</p> <p>They began to question them: ‘By what power or what name did you do this?’</p> <p>Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit spoke and said, ‘it is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth who you crucified whom God raised from the dead that this man is healed’.</p> <p>He quoted that Jesus is ‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone’.</p> <p>Peter states that salvation would be found in no one else.</p> <p>When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realised they were un-schooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and took note that they had been with Jesus.</p> <p>They saw the man who had been healed and there was nothing they could say.</p> <p>They ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin.</p> <p>They commanded them not to speak/teach in the name of Jesus.</p> <p>Peter and John said they had to do what was right in God’s eyes and that they had to speak about what they had seen and heard.</p> <p>Then they let them go as all the people were praising God for what had happened.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 3(b) | <p>Explain why Gamaliel's warning to the Sanhedrin stopped them from putting the apostles to death.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>Acts 5:33–41</p> <p>Gamaliel was a Pharisee, a teacher of the law who was honoured by all the people, so they were influenced by what he said.</p> <p>He explains to them that it is better to leave them.</p> <p>He gives two examples of Theudas who was killed and his followers dispersed. Also, Judas the Galilean who led people in revolt who was killed and his followers were scattered.</p> <p>He said that if their purpose is of human activity then it will fail, but if it is from God then they would not be able to stop them and they would be working against God, and so it was this that persuaded them only to flog them and order them not to preach in Jesus' name.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 3(c) | <p>‘The early church was feared by the authorities at the time.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates agreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>The number of believers that were added to the church made them a significant threat.</p> <p>They were feared because of their preaching concerning the resurrection of the dead (particularly the Sadducees).</p> <p>They were afraid of them spreading the word about Jesus which is why they attempted to stop them from preaching in his name.</p> <p>Herod was fearful of the success of the apostles and put James, brother of John to death and Peter in prison.</p> <p>Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>The authorities used their powers to arrest and flog the members of the church throughout Acts.</p> <p>They boldly stoned Stephen and were not fearful of the results, in fact the believers scattered.</p> <p>The authorities were jealous of the early church and in chapter 5, following the apostle’s healings, they arrested them because of this.</p> <p>All valid comments should be credited. Better candidates will be balanced in their responses, giving a range of informed views, a supported personal view point and providing a well-organised answer.</p> | 8 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|----------|
| 4(a) | <p>Describe what is known about Barnabas and his work in Antioch.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>Acts 11:22–30</p> <p>Barnabas was sent by the church in Jerusalem to Antioch as news had reached them that a great number believed and had turned to the Lord.</p> <p>Barnabas was glad when he saw what the Lord had done and encouraged them to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.</p> <p>We are told that Barnabas was a good man, full of Holy Spirit and faith. Barnabas also brought Saul and they met with the church for a whole year and taught great numbers of people.</p> <p>The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.</p> <p>Agabus, through the Holy Spirit, predicted that a famine would spread over the Roman world and the disciples gave what help they could to their brothers and sisters in Judea and gave Barnabas and Saul their gifts to the elders.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|----------|
| 4(b) | <p>Explain why Paul encountered opposition in Paphos <u>and</u> Iconium.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>Acts 13:6–13</p> <p>They met a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Bar-Jesus, who was an attendant of the proconsul, Sergius Paulus.</p> <p>This caused opposition as the proconsul wanted to hear the word of God and sent for them, but Elymas opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul away from the faith.</p> <p>Paul accused the magician of being the son of the Devil, so the Devil could be the reason for the opposition.</p> <p>Acts 14:1–7</p> <p>In Iconium, they encountered opposition from the Jews as they refused to believe and so were poisoning people’s minds against them.</p> <p>They faced opposition as there was a plot to ill-treat them (from both Gentiles and Jews, together with their leaders) and stone them, which meant that they had to flee.</p> <p>The apostles’ boldness could be cited as a reason for the opposition – or simply for the division caused among the Jews.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 4(c) | <p>‘Encounters with evil spirits helped the growth of the early church.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates agreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>Peter gave the city of Samaria great joy when he healed those with unclean spirits, and so led to a growth in numbers of believers.</p> <p>The slave girl knew they were servants of the most-high god, and in prison, they converted the jailer and all his household.</p> <p>The incident with the seven sons of Sceva led to those who were practising magic/sorcery to give up their magic and burn their books.</p> <p>Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>When the apostles were healing people from the towns around Jerusalem and healed those with impure spirits, the Sadducees were filled with jealousy and had them put in jail, which prevented the growth of the church.</p> <p>In Philippi, healing the slave girl led to Peter and Silas being imprisoned, which again did not help the cause of the early church.</p> <p>All valid comments should be credited. Better candidates will be balanced in their responses, giving a range of informed views, a supported personal view point and providing a well-organised answer.</p> | 8 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|----------|
| 5(a) | <p>Outline the conversion of the jailer after Paul and Silas escaped from prison.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>Acts 16:27–35</p> <p>When he saw that the prison doors were open and their chains had come loose he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought they had escaped when Paul shouted at him to stop.</p> <p>He called for lights and asked them what he had to do to be saved. They said: ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’</p> <p>They spoke the word of the Lord to him and the others in the house. He washed their wounds and they were all baptised.</p> <p>He brought them into his house for a meal and was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God, he and his whole household.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 5(b) | <p>Explain, with examples, why people responded differently to Paul's message.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>In Thessalonica, Paul's teaching caused division. Some Jews were persuaded and the God-fearing Greeks and prominent women.</p> <p>However, other Jews were jealous of Paul's popular teaching and so formed a mob and started to riot. They claimed that Paul and his followers were defying Caesar's decrees and saying there was another king called Jesus. (17:1–9)</p> <p>We are told that there was a different response in Berea because Berean Jews were of a more noble character and were eager to receive the message and examined the Scriptures to see if what Paul said was true. (17:10–15)</p> <p>In Athens, some sneered at Paul's teaching concerning the resurrection, and some were concerned that he seemed to be advocating foreign gods. However, others were more inquisitive and wanted to understand the strange ideas that were being presented to them, and so were more receptive to what Paul had to say. (17:16–34)</p> <p>In Lystra and Derbe, people responded differently as they confused Paul and Barnabas with gods. (14:11–14)</p> <p>The Jews responded in different ways to Paul's message, some were receptive and connected with Paul's teaching and Jewish references, for example, in Pisidian Antioch in chapter 13. However, others were jealous of Paul's popularity and others refused to believe what he said, particularly as they had been told that they had rejected the word of God. (Pisidian Antioch ch13 and Iconium ch14)</p> <p>Other relevant examples should be credited.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|-------|
| 5(c) | <p>‘Conversion only happens after a person experiences a miracle.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates agreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>Witnessing miraculous events/healings is what led to many conversions. For example, the beggar at the Beautiful Gate/the healing of Aeneas in Lydda and Tabitha in Joppa and the jailers.</p> <p>Saul arguably experienced the miraculous on the road to Damascus which led to his conversion.</p> <p>People need a reason to convert, and a miracle can provide that, which gives them a reason to believe and change their life.</p> <p>Jesus recognised that some people need to see in order to believe and convert.</p> <p>Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>People converted without the need for miracles, for example, the Ethiopian Eunuch.</p> <p>The preaching of the apostles led many to believe and convert, for example, in Antioch and in Iconium.</p> <p>People do not often experience miracles today and yet a large number of people still are able to believe and convert.</p> <p>Some people would argue that what appears to be a miracle can be explained in other ways, and that they can still believe and convert without the existence of miracles.</p> <p>All valid comments should be credited. Better candidates will be balanced in their responses, giving a range of informed views, a supported personal view point and providing a well-organised answer.</p> | 8 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 6(a) | <p>Outline the roles of the Sadducees and the Pharisees in the Acts of the Apostles.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>The Sadducees were a powerful group of aristocratic priests. They followed the law of Moses and did not believe in the resurrection. They also wanted to live peacefully with the Romans.</p> <p>In Acts, they were members of the Sanhedrin. The chief priest was a Sadducee and Peter and John appeared before them and were sent to prison.</p> <p>Their preaching angered the Sadducees in Jerusalem who imprisoned and following their escape wanted them to be put to death.</p> <p>Paul was brought before the Council and confronted the Sadducees who opposed his teaching.</p> <p>The Pharisees were a pious party who studied the law, followed the written law of Moses and the oral tradition.</p> <p>They were members of the Jewish Council who condemned Peter and John to death.</p> <p>Gamaliel was a Pharisee who showed a more liberal attitude to the apostles and convinced the other members of the Council.</p> <p>We are told that he was a teacher of the law who was honoured by the people.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|---|----------|
| 6(b) | <p>Explain why the early church faced opposition from Jewish leaders.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO1 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates may suggest the following:</p> <p>They faced opposition because they preached the resurrection of the dead in the temple area which annoyed the Sadducees.</p> <p>Stephen faced opposition, because they believed he spoke blasphemous words against Moses and against God, and were perhaps jealous of his signs/wonders.</p> <p>James, brother of John, faced opposition from Herod and was ultimately put to death, and because of the favour that this found from the Jews, Herod continued to persecute Peter.</p> <p>They faced opposition in Pisidian Antioch because the Jews saw the crowds and were filled with jealousy. Paul and Barnabas said to them: 'We had to speak the word of God to you first. Since you reject it and do not consider yourself worthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles'. This led the Jewish leaders to stir up persecution against them and they expelled them from their region.</p> | 6 |

| Question | Answer | Marks |
|----------|--|-------|
| 6(c) | <p>‘The early church was more interested in the Jews than in the Gentiles.’</p> <p>To what extent do you agree? Show in your answer that you have considered more than one point of view.</p> <p>Examiners should mark according to the AO2 level descriptors.</p> <p>Candidates agreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>Paul always started off by preaching in synagogues to the Jews.</p> <p>The apostles, through their preaching, tried to explain that Jesus, who the Jews had crucified, was the one who had been promised and they should repent and receive the spirit.</p> <p>It was the Jews who were the ones who were preached to first.</p> <p>Peter addresses the crowd following Pentecost: ‘Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem ... Fellow Israelites.’</p> <p>Candidates disagreeing with the statement may suggest some of the following arguments:</p> <p>Peter seemed to understand from the beginning that, ‘God does not show favouritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right’. (Acts 10:35)</p> <p>The Jewish authorities were the ones persecuting the church and actively seeking to destroy it.</p> <p>The Council of Jerusalem’s conclusions favoured the Gentiles and ensured that the mission could focus on them and a letter was sent to Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia to reassure them that they should not be burdened further than some basic requirements.</p> <p>Paul seemed to have a mission for the Gentiles and was successful in a large number of conversions and the organisation of churches.</p> <p>All valid comments should be credited. Better candidates will be balanced in their responses, giving a range of informed views, a supported personal view point and providing a well organised answer.</p> | 8 |