

General Certificate of Education  
June 2008  
Advanced Subsidiary Examination



**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**  
**Unit 3 An introduction to the New Testament**

**RS03**

Tuesday 3 June 2008 1.30 pm to 2.30 pm

**For this paper you must have:**

- an 8-page answer book.

You are permitted the use of a Bible, which may include the Apocrypha.

Time allowed: 1 hour

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The *Examining Body* for this paper is AQA. The *Paper Reference* is RS03.
- Answer **two** questions.  
Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

**Information**

- The maximum mark for this paper is 60.
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- You will be marked on your ability to use good English, to organise information clearly and to use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

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Answer **Question 1** and **one** other question.

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**1** Read this passage and answer parts (a) and (b) which follow.

‘The early church believed that miracles were not just supernatural events, but revelations of the person and work of Jesus. The miracles were more than events; they were a revelation of Jesus’ relationship with God and man. However, the miracle stories have presented problems for 21<sup>st</sup> century readers.’

- (a) Explain what the miracle of Calming the Storm teaches about Jesus’ relationship with God and man. *(10 marks)*
- (b) Explain what problems the miracle of Calming the Storm may present for 21<sup>st</sup> century readers. *(10 marks)*

**2** (a) Explain what may be understood about the person of Jesus from Matthew’s Birth narrative. *(15 marks)*

- (b) (i) Outline the evidence that John’s Prologue (John 1<sup>1-18</sup>) was written for Jews.
- (ii) Assess the view that John’s Prologue and Matthew’s Birth narrative have nothing in common. *(25 marks)*

**3** (a) Examine the main themes in Matthew’s presentation of Jesus’ resurrection. *(15 marks)*

- (b) ‘Luke’s Resurrection narrative is very different from Matthew’s Resurrection narrative.’
  - (i) Outline the ways in which critical approaches, such as redaction criticism, attempt to account for these differences.
  - (ii) Assess how far these differences raise problems for 21<sup>st</sup> century readers. *(25 marks)*

**END OF QUESTIONS**